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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

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CONTENTS

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Text of OAU Economic Action Plan Published
(WEST AFRICA, 19 May 80)..... 1

CEAO Official Discusses Niamey Meeting
(Adama Diabate; FRATERNITE-MATIN, 8 May 80)..... 5

Results of Consular Conference Reported
(FRATERNITE-MATIN, 8 May 80)..... 8

Ugandan Refugees in Zaire
(ELIMA, 16 Apr 80)..... 11

Zaire Approves African Economic Community
(ELIMA, 26-27 Apr 80)..... 12

Mozambique-Zimbabwe Seek Defence, Security Ties
(THE HERALD, 28 May 80)..... 13

Zimbabwe Army To Act Against Anti-Frelimo Elements
(Editorial; THE HERALD, 28 May 80)..... 15

Zimbabwe Whites Pessimistic About South Africa's Future
(Willie Kuehn; DIE BURGER, 22 Apr 80)..... 16

French-African Summit in Nice Discussed
(Editorial; WEST AFRICA, 19 May 80)..... 18

Rondos Reports on Nice Conference
(Alex Rondos; WEST AFRICA, 19 May 80)..... 21

Trade Unionism and Development Discussed
(Ad'Obe Obe; WEST AFRICA, 19 May 80)..... 27

[III - NE & A - 120]

UPDEA Abidjan Seminar on Electric-Power Interconnection Reported
(FRATERNITE-MATIN, various dates)..... 29

Machel-Mugabe Discuss Use of Ports, Umtali Pipeline
(THE HERALD, 26 May 80)..... 39

Briefs
Zimbabwe Mission to Tanzania 40
Swimmers Cut Ties With SA 40
Zimbabwe-Botswana Flights 40
Guinea Assures Liberia 41

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Nguema Lauds Moroccan Cooperation, Guidance
(LE MATIN, 11 May 80)..... 42

ETHIOPIA

Eritrean Development Projects Called Satisfactory
(THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD, 18 May 80)..... 45

Modern Technology To Be Applied to Gold Exploitation
(THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD, 14 May 80)..... 47

Research Study on Crop Yield Under Way
(THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD, 15 May 80)..... 48

Umbrella, Battery Factory Production Noted
(THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD, 16 May 80)..... 50

Briefs
Coffee Planting 52
Earthen Dam Construction 52
Mapping Activities 52
Donations for Eritrean Development 53
Profiteering Merchants 53
GDR Sports Donations 53
GDR Welfare Organization Donations 54

GABON

'Gabonization' Discussed at May Day Celebration
(L'UNION, 2 May 80)..... 55

Purchase Power Still Low, by Jean-Paul Kowet
Workers' Interest Minimal, by Makaya

World Impact of U.S. Hostage Situation Discussed
(Mengue-ba-Nna; L'UNION, 26-27 Apr 80)..... 57

Review of Cuban Cooperation, Future Plans
(Obame Emane; L'UNION, 30 Apr-1 May 80)..... 59

Reduced Scope of Japanese Cooperation Reviewed
(Mathurin Mihindou, Jean Bilinga; L'UNION, 24 Apr 80)..... 61

CCCE N'Toum IV Waterworks Loan Approved
(L'UNION, 30 Apr-1 May 80)..... 64

Briefs
Government Activity 65

GHANA

Briefs
'Defreezing' of Assets Denied 66
Northern Agriculture Fuel Shortage 66

IVORY COAST

FNAMAJCI Activities, Political Role Discussed
(FRATERNITE-MATIN, 7 May 80)..... 67

Youth Awareness Campaign, Amoa Urbain Interview
FNAMAJCI Acting Committee in Bondoukou, by Yao Noel
National School, University Youth Congress, by R. Diodan
Minister Ekra's Speech, by R. Diodan

KENYA

Moi Returns From Arab Countries, Announces Agreements
(Mohamed Warsama; DAILY NATION, 29 May 80)..... 78

'DAILY NATION' Comments on Obote Return
(Editorial; DAILY NATION, 28 May 80)..... 79

Minister Reviews State of Economy
(Zachary Onyonka Interview; SUNDAY NATION, 25 May 80)..... 81

Paper on Economic Prospects Submitted for Debate
(DAILY NATION, 15, 16 May 80)..... 84

'Gloomy' Economic Picture, by Cornelius Nyamboki
'DAILY NATION' Comment, Editorial

Report Reveals Shortcomings in Local Administration
(Cornelius Nyamboki; DAILY NATION, 23 May 80)..... 87

Statistics on Mombasa Port, Drydock Volume
(DAILY NATION, 24 May 80)..... 91

Increase in Port Traffic
Declining Drydock Business

Briefs
Combat of Shifta Activity 93
Company Shares for Employees 93
EEC Grants, Loans 93
Arab-Kenyan Shipping Line 94
Land Sale Policy 94
Foreign Ownership of Land 94
Foreign Share of Industry 95
Moi on KPU 95

LIBERIA

Many Ambiguities Apparent in Post-Coup Situation
(Jean-Claude Pomonti; LE MONDE, 29 Apr 80)..... 96

People's Supreme Tribunal Established
(WEST AFRICA, 5 May 80)..... 100

Most Senior Officials Reportedly Reconfirmed
(WEST AFRICA, 5 May 80)..... 101

Alleged Overspending by Tolbert Government
(WEST AFRICA, 5 May 80)..... 102

Briefs
PRC Policy Stated 103
Military Tribunal Resumes Work 103
Expedited Tax Collection 103
Courts Reconstituted 104
Alien Arrests Reported 104
Change Motto 104
Biographical Data on Doe 104
Government Officials To Declare Assets 105

MADAGASCAR

VSM Official's Analysis of Situation Reported
(MADAGASCAR-MATIN, 15 Apr 80)..... 106

Minister Outlines University's Revolutionary Role
(MADAGASCAR-MATIN, 18 Apr 80)..... 108

MALAWI

Banda Reported Shoring Up Sagging Economy
(THE HERALD, 27 May 80)..... 111

MALI

UDPM Official Interviewed on Relations With USSR
(Sori Coulibaly Interview; L'ESSOR, 23 Apr 80)..... 113

Foreign Media, Humanitarian Organization Termed Detractors
(L'ESSOR, 9 Apr 80)..... 114

Foreign Press Denigration Vehemently Refuted
(Editorial; L'ESSOR, 21 Apr 80)..... 117

UDPM National Council on State Enterprises, Party Deficiencies
(L'ESSOR, 12-13 Apr 80)..... 120

Minister Affirms State Enterprises Here To Stay
(L'ESSOR, 29 Apr 80)..... 124

MOZAMBIQUE

Cuban Foreign Minister Congratulates Mozambique Counterpart on Africa Day
(Maputo Domestic Service, 25 May 80)..... 126

NAMIBIA

Briefs
SWAPO: Two Planes Downed 127

NIGER

Briefs
EEC-Financed Road Opened 128

SENEGAL

Senghor Discusses Foreign Intervention in Africa
(Leopold Senghor Interview; LE FIGARO MAGAZINE, 10 May 80)..... 129

Minister Discusses Priorities Facing African Nations
(Moustapha Niasse Interview; AFRICA, May 80)..... 136

Rural Economy Reformed, Rural Development Fund Set Up
(WEST AFRICA, 19 May 80)..... 141

Effects of Agricultural Crisis Spreading Throughout Economy
(Pierre Biarnes; LE MONDE, 16 Apr 80)..... 143

SEYCHELLES

Big Anniversary Celebration Parade Scheduled
(NATION, 17 May 80)..... 146

Success of Air Seychelles Reported
(NATION, 19 May 80)..... 148

Fish Processing Trial Project Reported
(NATION, 22 May 80)..... 151

Briefs
Relations With Albania 153
Praslin Employment Scheme 153
Government Insurance Company 153
Commonwealth Loan 154
National Flower Chosen 154
Club Converted Into Youth Hq 154

SOUTH AFRICA

Botha Announces New Rocket Artillery
(DIE BURGER, 2 May 80)..... 155

Briefs
Moslem Leader Arrested 156
Explosives Magazine Accident 156

TOGO

Korean Delegation Affirms Friendship Ties
(LA NOUVELLE MARCHE, 25 Apr 80)..... 157

UPPER VOLTA

Proceedings of Seventh UDV-RDA Congress
(K. I. El Kara, L. Sawadogo; L'OBSERVATEUR, various dates)..... 159

Teachers Union Meeting, Motions Reported
(L'OBSERVATEUR, various dates)..... 174

ZAIRE

Arrests in Shaba for Misappropriations
(ELIMA, 16 Apr 80)..... 179

Reorganization of Security Services
(ELIMA, various dates)..... 180

No Buyers for Nord-Kivu Food
(ELIMA, 24 Apr 80)..... 187

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Pledges Support to SA Liberation Movement
(THE HERALD, 26 May 80)..... 188

Nkomo Reassures Churchmen, Calls for Cooperation
(THE HERALD, 26 May 80)..... 191

Assembly, Senate Proceedings Reported
(THE HERALD, 28 May 80)..... 193

Swift Transportation Workers Stage Strike
(THE HERALD, 28 May 80)..... 199

Possibility of Solar Energy Contribution Discussed
(THE HERALD, 28 May 80)..... 201

Briefs
T-Shirt Ban Revoked 202
Accor Agenda 202
Banks' Reaction to Plea 202
Bulawayo Council 202
UN Aid Agreement 203
CAP Branch Sought 203

TEXT OF OAU ECONOMIC ACTION PLAN PUBLISHED

London WEST AFRICA in English 19 May 80 p 869, 871-72

[Text]

In the first of a series of articles publishing textual extracts and summaries from the key document agreed at the special economic summit of the OAU in Lagos last month, "Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa", we publish the full text of the introduction to that document:

THE EFFECT of unfulfilled promises of global development strategies has been more sharply felt in Africa than in the other Continents of the world. Indeed rather than result in an improvement in the economic situation of the continent, successive strategies have made the continent stagnate and become more susceptible than other regions to the economic and social crisis suffered by the industrialised countries. Thus Africa is unable to point to any significant growth rate or satisfactory index of general well-being in the last twenty years. Faced with this situation and determined to undertake measures for the basic restructuring of the economic base of our continent, we resolved to adopt a far-reaching regional approach based primarily on collective self-reliance.

Thus, following a series of in-depth considerations of the economic problems of the Continent by our Ministers and by groups of experts, we adopted at our 16th Ordinary Session, held in Monrovia, Liberia, in July 1979, the "Monrovia Declaration of Commitment of the Heads of State and Government of the OAU on the guidelines and measures for national and collective self-reliance in economic and social development for the establishment of a new international economic order."

In adopting the Declaration we recognised "the need to take urgent action to provide the political support necessary for the success of the measures to achieve the goals of rapid self-reliance and self-sustaining development and economic growth," and declared as follows:

i. We commit ourselves individually and collectively, on behalf of our governments and peoples, to promote the economic and social development and integration of our economies with a view to achieving an increasing measure of self-sufficiency and self-sustainment.

ii. We commit ourselves, individually and collectively on behalf of our governments and peoples, to promote the economic integration of the African region in order to facilitate and reinforce social and economic intercourse.

iii. We commit ourselves, individually and collectively on behalf of our governments and peoples, to establish national, sub-regional and regional institutions which will facilitate the attainment of objectives of self-reliance and self-sustainment.

iv. More specifically, we commit ourselves, individually and collectively on behalf of our government and peoples, to:

(a) Give an important place to the field

of human resources development by starting to eliminate illiteracy,

(b) Put science and technology in the service of development by reinforcing the autonomous capacity of our countries in this field,

(c) Achieve self-sufficiency in food production and supply,

(d) Implement completely the programmes for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa,

(e) Realise the sub-regional and regional internally located industrial development,

(f) Co-operate in the field of natural resources control, exploration, extraction and use for the development of our economies for the benefit of our peoples and to set up the appropriate institutions to achieve these purposes;

(g) Develop indigenous entrepreneurial, technical manpower and technological abilities to enable our peoples to assume greater responsibility for the achievement of our individual and collective development goals;

(h) Co-operate in the preservation, protection and improvement of the natural environment,

(i) Ensure that our development policies reflect adequately our socio-cultural values in order to reinforce our cultural identity; and

(j) Take into account the dimension of the future in the elaboration of our development plans including studies and measures aimed at achieving a rapid socio-economic transformation of our States.

v. We hold firmly to the view that these commitments will lead to the creation at the national, sub-regional and regional levels of a dynamic interdependent African economy and will thereby pave the way for the eventual establishment of an African Common Market leading to an African Economic Community.

vi. "Resolving to give special attention to the discussion of economic issues at each annual Session of our Assembly, we, hereby, call on the Secretary General in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the United National Economic Commission for Africa, to draw up annually specific programmes and measures for economic co-operation on sub-regional, regional and continental bases in Africa".

In order to consider concrete measures for the implementation of the Monrovia Declaration we resolve to hold this Extra-Ordinary Session in Lagos, Nigeria, to be devoted to the economic problems of our Continent.

In assessing those problems, we are convinced that Africa's underdevelopment in not inevitable. Indeed, it is a paradox when one bears in mind the immense human and natural resources of the Continent. In addition to its reservoir of human resources, our Continent has 97 per cent of world reserve of chrome, 85 per cent of world reserves of platinum, 64 per cent of world reserves of manganese, 25 per cent of world reserves of uranium and 13 per cent of world reserves of copper without mentioning bauxite, nickel and lead, 20 per cent of world hydro-electrical potential, 20 per cent of traded oil in the world (if we exclude the US and the USSR), 70 per cent of world cocoa production, one third of world coffee production, 50 per cent of palm produce, to mention just a few.

Thus, Africa, despite all efforts made by its leaders remains the least developed Continent. It has 20 of the 31 least developed countries of the world. Africa is susceptible to the disastrous effects of natural and endemic diseases of the cruelest type, victim of settler exploitation arising from colonialism, racism and apartheid. Indeed, Africa was directly exploited during the colonial period and for the past two decades this exploitation has been carried out through neo-colonialist external forces which seek to influence the economic policies and directions of African states.

The structural weaknesses of African Agriculture in its globality is well known. Low production and productivity, rudimentary agricultural techniques. This obviously gives rise to insufficient agricultural growth, especially food production, in the face of the rapid population growth. This has led to serious food shortage and malnutrition in the Continent.

We view with distress that our Continent remains the least developed of all the continents, the total Gross Domestic production of our countries being only 2.7

per cent of the world, per capita income averaging $166.

We view with disquiet the over dependence of the economy of our Continent on the export of basic raw materials and minerals. This phenomenon had made African economies highly susceptible to external developments with detrimental effects on the interests of the continent.

Thus, in the 20 years from 1960—1980, the average rate of growth continent-wide has been no more than 4.8 per cent, a figure which hides divergent realities ranging from 7 per cent growth rate for the oil exporting countries down to 2.9 per cent for the least developed countries. Yet if the world economic forecast for the next decade is to be believed, the overall poor performance of African economy over the past 20 years may even be a golden age compared with future growth rate.

This situation has led us at this Extra-Ordinary Session devoted to the economic problems of Africa to an agonising but frank reappraisal of the present situation and the future prospects of African economic conditions. In so doing, we look back at the political constraints on the development of our Continent caused by colonial and racist domination and exploitation. We look forward with the hope that Africa, which has survived the brutalities of imperialism, racism and apartheid has the resilience to pull itself out of the economic malaise in which it finds itself.

The independence of Zimbabwe after years of armed struggle waged by the Zimbabwean people under the leadership of the Patriotic Front and with the active support of the Organization of African Unity marks the final turn in the total liberation of the Continent. This event has ushered in renewed desperate attempts by the Pretoria regime to arrest the tide of history and to perpetuate the status quo in Namibia and South Africa itself. South Africa's envisaged "constellation" of Southern States is part of this diabolic design--a scheme which would bring independent states under the same political, economic and military domination by the apartheid regime as the Bantustans. We shall continue to pursue this liberation of the last remaining outposts of exploitation, racism and apartheid with vigor.

The same determination that has virtually rid our continent of political domination is required for our economic liberation. Our success in exploiting our political unity should encourage us to exploit the strength inherent in our economic unity. We, therefore, resolve, in the context of our Organization to unite our efforts in the economic field. To this end, certain basic guidelines must be borne in mind:

i. Africa's huge resources must be applied principally to meet the needs and purposes of its people;

ii. Africa's almost total reliance on the export of raw materials must change. Rather Africa's development and growth must be based on a combination of Africa's considerable natural resources, her entrepreneurial, managerial and technical resources and her markets (restructured and expanded), to serve her people. Africa, therefore, must map out its own strategy for development and must vigorously pursue its implementation;

iii. Africa must cultivate the virtue of self-reliance. This is not to say that the continent should totally cut itself off from outside contributions. However, these outside contributions should only supplement our own efforts, they should not be the main stay of our development;

iv. As a consequence of the need for increased self-reliance, Africa must mobilise her entire human and material resources for her development;

v. Each of our states must pursue all embracing economic, social and cultural activities which will mobilize the strength of the countr/ as a whole and ensure that both the efforts put into the benefits derived from development are equitably shared.

vi. Efforts towards African economic integration must be pursued with renewed determination in order to create continent-wide framework for the much needed economic cooperation for development based on collective self-reliance.

On the basis of these guidelines we the Heads of State and Government meeting in Lagos at the Extra-Ordinary Session devoted to Africa's Economic Problems decided to adopt a Plan of Action as well as a Protocol on an African Economic Community. In so doing, we are conscious of the tremendous effort which will be required of us individually and collectively to attain the goals we have set for ourselves in these documents. We are confident that we have the determination to overcome the obstacles that may lie in our path and that our Organization and its General Secretariat will be able to enlist the active support of the International Community as well as the relevant International Organizations.

CSO: 4420

CEAO OFFICIAL DISCUSSES NIAMEY MEETING

Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 8 May 80 p 17

[Article by Adama Diabate]

[Text] The 11th council of ministers of the West African Economic Community (CEAO) met at the end of April 1980 in Niamey. This 11th summit was basically oriented toward measures to implement the latest decisions by the conference of chiefs of state held in Nouakchott in October 1979, a conference which first adopted an organizational chart for the secretariat general and community projects, the first tests of a real policy of economic cooperation.

In passage through abidjan en route to Nairobi, Moussa N'Gom, secretary-general of the CEAO, was kind enough to give us the results of the 11th council of ministers.

According to N'Gom, the conference of the chiefs of state had asked the council of ministers at its April 1980 session to arrive at decisions to implement new structures for the secretariat general, particularly the appointment of new directors, since the directorates were increased from five to 11, including:

--The directorate of commercial exchanges: an Ivorian is to be the director.

--The directorate of rural development: to be headed by a Mauritanian.

--The directorate of industrial development: the director will be a Nigerian.

--The directorate of administrative and financial affairs: the director will be a Voltan.

--Finally, the directorate of the Solidarity and Intervention Fund for the Economic Development of the Community (FOSIDEC) whose director is to be a Malian.

As for the projects (six in total), these include: Center for Management Studies: the project chief is to be an Ivorian.

--The Regional Solar Energy Research and Production Center, whose director will be Nigerian.

--The Higher School of Textiles: the project chief will be a Voltan.

--The Higher School of Mines and Geology: whose project director will be a Malian.

--The Superior Institute of Fishing Sciences and Technologies: the project chief is to be a Senegalese.

--The Company for the Equipping, Purchasing and Commercializing of Fish Products: the project chief is to be a Mauritanian.

The states proposed candidates for all these positions, and they were immediately appointed and were to take up their posts by 30 June at the latest.

The Customs Union in 1986

The agenda also covered the adoption of the most recent measures for implementation of the common foreign tariff which is the objective of the customs union was set for 1986; i.e., 12 years after the effective date of the treaty.

"Therefore, we are half way," N'Gom said. "That is to say, we are beginning the second stage of the institutional itinerary which we set for ourselves. In the trade sector, we developed a common customs document, therefore, uniformity of customs documents, declarations, certificates of origin, uniformity of customs systems, the same customs and statistical nomenclature, and that after 4 years. We are now simply forced to take the ECOWAS into consideration so that our experience can be of service to the 16 states to prevent duplicate positions in the utilization of these instruments and the organization of trade. A meeting has been scheduled for the near future for the secretariats of the ECOWAS, Mano River (Sierra Leone, Liberia and Upper Guinea) and the CEAO, that is to say the three organizations of the subregion which have the objective of economic integration, with passage through an organization of commercial exchanges. During this meeting, we will develop a strategy of coordination and cooperation to prevent duplicate positions.

"At the upcoming ECOWAS summit in Lome, I am to sign a cooperation agreement with Diaby Ouattara, executive secretary of that institution. I already signed the same agreement with the Mano River a month ago in Freetown on the occasion of its council of ministers meeting."

Improvement in the Standard of Living

The council of ministers also authorized the secretariat general of the CEAO to arrange for cooperation in two new sectors: tourism and pharmacy. The CEAO wishes in fact to manage these sectors which have become a profitable industry for our states and also, in the health sector, to assure a certain amount of cooperation in the distribution of imported pharmaceutical products, the manufacture of popular products and the development of the African pharmacopoeia and traditional medicine in which sector we have real potentialities in each of the countries. Two studies will be undertaken in these two sectors so that in the month of October the chiefs of state will decide on the first measures of an effective cooperation program.

"We feel that with the projects we have just enumerated, that are basically oriented toward the training of the managers of our development, which cannot be assured except through our mining, atmospheric, and agricultural wealth with these projects I say, in addition to the other projects being considered concerning the community company of maritime transportation, a firm pisciculture pilot program for which provision was made at Bouake alongside the research center operating there, we think we have covered the spectrum of activities whose development could bring about an improvement in the standard of living of our peoples by assuring them of a certain number of rights: the right to their energy, health, their maritime and atmospheric wealth and this by means of unified exploitation of their wealth to prepare them for the coming of continental cooperation which is the only thing that can permit us to participate in the 21st century with this new economic order for the year 2000.

"We are fortunate in the countries of West Africa, particularly in the organization of cooperation of West Africa, to have been among the pioneers of economic cooperation. What is more, one of the promoters of the CEAO has merely transposed to the continental level the concerns of this West Africa which, also, particularly the French-speaking countries before and after independence, knew only this mode of development through the former AOF [French West Africa], the council of the entente, the UDEAO [Customs Union of West African States] and today the CEAO, ECOWAS and Mano River, generally speaking.

"From a sectional standpoint, the OMVS, Liptako Gourma, CILSS and then this year the Niger River Commission.

"Therefore, it is symbolic that the first meeting of the OAU took place in our region in Lagos which should constitute the economic Bandung of Africa."

8143
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RESULTS OF CONSULAR CONFERENCE REPORTED

Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 8 May 80 p 15

[Text] The Permanent Conference of African and French Consular Companies was held in Abidjan on 24-25 April 1980. About 120 participants from 13 French-speaking states and France took part in this event.

The final communique and the cooperation protocol between the French and African associations which approved the work of the conference are as follows:

At the initiative of the Consular Assemblies of the Ivory Coast and under the aegis of the Permanent Conference of African and French Chambers of Commerce, the members of the Association of Secretaries-General of the French CCI [Chambers of Commerce and Industry] met on 24-25 April 1980 in Abidjan with the Secretaries-General of the Consular Companies of Benin, the Central African Republic, the Congo, Gabon, Mali, Senegal, Togo, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and Upper Volta.

The conference took up matters relating to the technical activities of the Secretaries-General in their companies. The perfect organization of the work incumbent on the consular companies of the Ivory Coast was the best measure of the success of this meeting. In this regard, they won the gratitude and heartfelt thanks of all the participants.

The Secretaries-General of the French-speaking African Consular Companies present at this meeting took the opportunity to establish an association permitting them to have permanent cooperation and the development of friendly ties of mutual assistance.

Moreover, the new association of the Secretaries-General of French-speaking African Consular Companies and the Association of Secretaries-General of the French Chambers of Commerce and Industry decided to later establish a permanent cooperation organization which would permit them to engage in a technical exchange of information and experiences to be accomplished in Abidjan.

The Secretaries-General of the French Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Secretaries-General of the French-speaking African Consular Companies joined in warmly thanking the Ivorian authorities for the active interest they showed in the meeting and the assistance of all kinds which they provided for the holding of this friendship and cooperation event.

Under the aegis of the Permanent Conference of African and French CCI, the Association of Secretaries-General of the French CCI met on 24-25 April 1980 in Abidjan with the Secretaries-General of the Consular Companies of French-speaking Africa. On that occasion, the latter made the decision in principle to form themselves into an Association of Secretaries-General of the Consular Companies of French-speaking Africa.

In order to develop the bonds of friendship and the spirit of mutual assistance between the Secretaries-General of the Consular Comapnies of French-speaking Africa and the French companies, an agreement was reached on the following matters:

The Association of Secretaries-General of French-speaking Africa, represented by its president, Maxime Ekra, and the Association of French Secretary-Generals, represented by its president, Jacques Devergne, have decided to establish a liaison committee of Secretaries-General of French-speaking and French Consular Companies.

Objectives:

The purpose of the Liaison Committee will be:

1. To prepare and implement any action susceptible of providing the Secretaries-General of French-speaking African and French Consular Companies with technical support in the exercise of their duties and responsibilities, whether this involves the stimulation of the economic life of their district or the management of their company.

In this regard, cooperation in the technical sector will be developed in the following areas:

--exchange of economic documentation;

--promotion of small and medium-size industries;

--promotion of products and services in foreign markets;

--development of activities for the professional training undertaken by the CCI;

--administrative and financial management of the CCI;

--administrative and financial management of the CCI particularly as concerns the training of consular personnel.

2. To organize at least every 3 years, alternately in France and Africa, a meeting of members of the two associations.

Duties and Responsibilities:

--The Liaison Committee will consist of eight members: four appointed by the Association of Secretaries-General of French-speaking African Consular Companies, four appointed by the Association of Secretaries-General of the French CCI.

--The Liaison Committee will meet at least once a year at the initiative alternately of the two Associations.

--Without asserting the exclusivity of the relations between the French-speaking African and French Secretaries-General, the members of the Liaison Committee will be responsible for transmitting to their French-speaking African and French colleagues requests which will come to their attention to the extent that such requests are in conformity with the objectives of the Liaison Committee.

8143
CSO: 4400

UGANDAN REFUGEES IN ZAIRE

Kinshasa ELIMA in French 16 Apr 80 p 7

[Report: "52,212 Ugandan Refugees Settled in the Upper Zaire Area"]

[Text] The number of Ugandan refugees settled in the border areas with Uganda are assessed at 52,212, Pierre Adouvo, head of the subdelegation of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in Kivu and Upper Zaire reported on Monday morning to the AZaP. Adouvo recently completed a study trip in the Upper Zaire area.

The Aru zone contains a large number of refugees--49,714. The rest are in the Mahagi area, Adouvo went on to say. He added that his trip in Aru, Nieri, Rogale, Abedju, Lombe, Gombe, Ingbokolo, Keri and Kingeri allowed him to study various problems related to the situation of the refugees.

The subdelegation of the refugees commission is focused mainly on the ways and means which would enable the Ugandan refugees to engage in farming. However, the latter lack adequate facilities for such work, Adouvo specified. He expressed his satisfaction as to the conditions in which the refugees are cohabiting with their Zairian brothers.

Finally, the head of the United Nations subdelegation for refugees believes that the operation of evacuating the refugees, as planned by the executive council, together with the High Commission for Refugees, over a distance of more than 150 kilometers from the border, would cost an enormous amount of treasury funds and would take over one year.

5157
CSO: 4400

ZAIRE APPROVES AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Kinshasa ELIMA in French 26-27 Apr 80 pp 1, 7

[Report: "Zaire Welcomes the Plan for the Establishment of an African Economic Community"]

[Text] In his address, last Thursday, at the meeting of ministers who are preparing the economic summit to be held by the OAU in Lago (Nigeria) on 28 and 29 April, citizen Nguz Karl i Bond, state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation, welcomed the suggestion of an agreement protocol aimed at the creation of an African economic community.

Citizen Nguz recalled, on this occasion, that citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, president and founder of the MPR [Popular Movement of the Revolution] and president of the republic, who, at the 11th Extraordinary Session of the OAU Council of Ministers, held in Kinshasa in December 1976, had formulated this suggestion and assessed its implementation within 15 to 20 years, on a step-by-step basis. He expressed Zaire's support for the creation of such a community, while emphasizing the need to bear in mind the specifics of each area in the course of the organization of such a unit.

On the other hand, he pointed out that Zaire considers as an important work tool the action plan suggested by the OAU secretary general, covering the main sectors of the economic and social development of African states. Zaire suggested that the OAU secretary general proceed to an evaluation of the suggested activities, stipulating the ways and means for the mobilization of the necessary resources for the financing of the plan.

Citizen Nguz also raised the question of transit rights and access to the sea of geographically deprived countries. In order to eliminate the restrictions and whims of coastal countries, Zaire suggested that Africa adopt a general convention which would make it possible to eliminate this heavy burden which, he added, hinders inter-African economic cooperation.

5157
CSO: 4400

MOZAMBIQUE-ZIMBABWE SEEK DEFENCE, SECURITY TIES

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 28 May 80 p 1

[Text] A high-powered military delegation from Mozambique yesterday held wideranging talks with Zimbabwean security officials to seek practical methods of establishing cooperation and closer links in the fields of defense and security.

A joint statement read at a Press conference last night before the departure of the Mozambican team said the two delegations were "highly cognizant" of the need to maintain and consolidate peace and stability in the region.

This was vital to achieve "social and national prosperity for their people and safeguard their independence."

The statement, read by Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, said: "The meeting was held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and deep cordiality and it achieved its objectives.

"The objective of the meeting was to seek practical modalities of establishing cooperation and close coordination in vital fields such as defense and security."

Yesterday's meeting was a follow-up to discussions held in Beira on Friday between the Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, and President Machel.

At the time of Mr Mugabe's visit, it was reported the two leaders had agreed on the need to work for permanent peace, stability and economic cooperation between the two nations.

Asked if the discussions meant Zimbabwean troops would cooperate with FPLM forces in a joint action against anti-Frelimo dissidents, Mr Munangagwa said: "We have said there will be cooperation between us and Mozambique."

The Mozambique team was led by the Acting Minister of Defense and National Political Commissar, Mr Armando Gwebuza, the Deputy Minister of National

Defense and Chief of Staff, General Sebastiao Mabote, the Minister of State Security, Mr Jacinto Velesso, and the Air Force Commander, Mr Americo Mapfumo.

Mr Munangagwa was accompanied by Zimbabwe's defense and security chiefs.

CSO: 4420

ZIMBABWE ARMY TO ACT AGAINST ANTI-FRELIMO ELEMENTS

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 28 May 80 p 8

[Editorial: "Ties of Friendship"]

[Text]

RECENT REPORTS of mounting bush warfare in Mozambique have now been confirmed by the Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, who has also admitted that anti-Frelimo Government elements have been operating from Zimbabwe.

His weekend statement that Zimbabwe will drive these armed groups across the border to be dealt with by President Machel's forces was to be expected. These men could hardly hope to operate from a country which has close co-operation and friendship with Mozambique.

Both countries have had enough of war. Both are trying to enjoy the fruits of a hard-won peace. The last thing we want is another conflict raging along the border. Mr Mugabe has promised "thunderous" action to remove the menace.

One of the rebel spokesmen has threatened to strike back at Zimbabwe if action is taken against his group.

Let there be no misconceptions. Zimbabwe may be fed up with fighting, but we have one of the strongest bush-war armies in the world, capable of dealing with the situation. If our borders are infringed and our friends attacked, Mr Mugabe has made it clear the Zimbabwe Army will act.

CSO: 4420

ZIMBABWE WHITES PESSIMISTIC ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA'S FUTURE

Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 22 Apr 80 p 9

[Article by Willie Kuehn]

[Text] The whites of Zimbabwe are generally pessimistic about the future of South Africa and they believe that the flames which consumed Rhodesia will flare up all the higher in South Africa.

Moreover they are convinced that the new prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, will be involved much more actively in the "liberation struggle" against South Africa even if he is advocating a policy of "good neighborliness" and positive neutrality. It is being said that many countries and world organizations are exercising pressure on Mr Mugabe to have him give in.

Even though South Africans in particular are explaining how different South Africa's policy is in comparison with that of former Rhodesia and how much stronger South Africa is than Rhodesia, militarily speaking, a typical reaction is: "That's what we were saying before the war. We believed that we would win and that we had justice on our side, but in the end we lost everything."

Still another interesting observation, which, according to observers, is rendering South Africa's position even more difficult, is the fact that racial relations in Zimbabwe are a lot better than those in South Africa. When Rhodesia was still in existence whites often said that the country's greatest salvation lay in its basically good racial relations, and this was even when the war raged at its worst.

Sanctuary

Flying back to South Africa I sat beside a white farmer from a place near Salisbury and his conclusion was: "Quite frequently I vacationed in South Africa and I never failed to notice that the racial relations there are more tense."

These people are not speaking out as inimical critics of South Africa. Most of them look upon South Africa as their ultimate sanctuary and with a great deal of frankness they are trying to learn lessons from their recent past to see whether they can perhaps offer some well meaning advice to South Africa.

They are of the opinion that Mr Mugabe will not be able to continue paying lip service to the "liberation" of South Africa and actually do nothing about it. Mr Mugabe has already stated that Zimbabwe is a frontline country against South Africa and that his ideal is to establish complete equality in South Africa. He is, however, bound to South Africa's economy and will not therefore allow Zimbabwe to be used as a springboard against his neighboring country.

Limited

He said that in any case Zimbabwe's capabilities are limited; therefore, Zimbabwe will probably concentrate more on political pressure. Mr Mugabe came into power by using Mozambique as a base for attacking the government of Mr Ian Smith and Bishop Abel Muzorewa, by accepting communist aid, committing brutal acts of terrorism and by joining the world front of "freedom movements."

By inviting a large number of these movements to the independence celebration of last week Mr Mugabe showed quite clearly where his sympathies lie. Examples of these organizations were the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Polisario Front, the Monteneros and from Southern Africa: SWAPO, the ANC and PAC.

Great Pressure

It goes without saying that the United Nations, the Organization of Africa Unity, the communist world, the nonaligned countries and other anti-South Africa organizations will be exercising pressure on Mr Mugabe for tightening the screw against South Africa and that if he wants to remain in their favor he must show results in this respect.

According to informed observers there is now an oversupply of terrorist weapons in Zimbabwe and they believe that the logical strategy is to have these weapons turned over to SWAPO. The secretary of the Liberation Committee of the Organization of Africa Unity, Col H. Mbita, evidently did not show up in Zimbabwe for nothing. Mugabe, in a press conference, had just stated that one of the ways in which Zimbabwe can conduct the struggle against South Africa is through its help to the Liberation Committee.

Whites are of the opinion that the pressure on South Africa will definitely increase--either directly through increased activities in South Africa itself or indirectly through a higher intensification of SWAPO strife.

The Zimbabwe whites say that they do not want to tell South Africa what to do, they want to merely point out certain facts which cannot be disregarded. They believe that the whites in South Africa are too complacent.

7964

CSO: 4408

FRENCH-AFRICAN SUMMIT IN NICE DISCUSSED

London WEST AFRICA in English 19 May 80 p 863

[Editorial: "The French Connection"]

[Text]

"THE NEW colonial pact is even more severe than the old one," no less a figure than President Senghor announced shortly before the Franco-African Summit in Nice last week. He went on to say: "If, in spite of the world economic crisis and the slowdown in growth, the purchasing power of the developed countries continues to grow, it is because they draw from the pockets of the developing countries." It was an eloquent complaint which added considerable spice to an occasion which symbolises and celebrates a highly specific and controversial relationship between a developed and a group of developing countries — France and its former colonies.

It is a link negotiated in the final stretch of France's period as a colonial ruler which has been sustained for the last two decades. It has had its vicissitudes. Mali, in the last 10 years, has gradually been drawn closer to France; Chad and Mauritania have blown hot and cold. Guinea is only now testing the water. On balance though, it is a testament to the durability of this connection — and a source of some concern for those who believe in the complete liberation of Africa — that France has underpinned, by the maintenance of a linguistic community among the ruling groups of its African partners and the creation of a series of institutional links, the most effectively unified body of states in Africa. It is a body which, because of the apparent willingness of its leaders to bow to France's authority and to depend on France, in some cases, for political and economic survival, is seen to serve France's rather than their individual national purposes.

The first distinction that has to be made when discussing Francophone Africa is that is does not reflect the will of the African populations but of their leaders. They participate in a series of institutional ties which have formalised the sacrifice of a certain degree of sovereignty. The foundation of this is the membership of the franc zone, united in West Africa by the Union Monetaire Ouest Africaine. France guarantees the CFA franc. This foundation has permitted the relatively smooth creation and operation of the West African Economic Community, CEAO, which always seems to be a few steps ahead of the wider-used ECOWAS. The implications for the latter body, to which so much hope is attached for the eventual integration of West Africa's economies, are considerable.

To add to the monetary integration of the UMOA and the customs union of CEAO, the historical wheel has, in a sense, come full circle with the announcement that a "Francophone Commonwealth" is to be founded. The final decision was taken by the participants of the Nice conference. It is President Senghor's baby and he insists on its cultural importance. It is a fact that should never be overlooked that one can travel from Tangier to Lubumbashi without ever having to speak anything but French.

It would be wrong to see this relationship between France and its African allies as a smoothly operating whole. The two sides may have depended on each other in the past. France offers certain economic guarantees, providing the political and economic line is tied to France's convenience. The Francophone countries often use France to press their collective claims in major international forums. The existence of a Francophone bloc which is sympathetic, in some cases spectacularly so, to France's diplomacy — as in the immediate support from Senegal, Ivory Coast, Togo and Gabon, in the Shaba affair of 1978 — gives France considerable diplomatic leverage.

France, however, has been showing signs that economic reality dictates that it can no longer continue with its exclusive line of help to its former colonies, however profitable. Hence President Giscard d'Estaing goes on at great length about the "triologue" between Arab money, European technology and expertise and African raw materials. The critics dismiss this as another tactic in Europe's need to secure raw materials from Africa. This is true to a certain extent. The significance though is that France is finding increasingly that its own interests are too closely tied with other Western powers to be able to continue operating independently in Africa, which was an essential element in Gaullist African policy. This extends to the far more delicate area of international strategy, where the differences between the West and Africa in views on communism are becoming wider in spite of the fears of the older generation of politicians like President Senghor and President Houphouet-Boigny.

Similarly in West Africa, the plight of the various national economies — on which President Houphouet-Boigny spoke so forcefully at Lagos — has brought about a realisation that Africa's way out for the future is not only to rethink the present state of political organisation within different countries — Liberia was a stunning example of what can happen when élites become complacent — but also that Africa must co-operate much more closely than ever before. Two decades of territorial sovereignty have also led to growing differences within the member states of the franc zone. Ivory Coast has to bear the burden for the balance of payments deficits of Senegal and Upper Volta. Niger's uranium wealth has given it the means to acquire a degree of diplomatic independence from the triple influence of North Africa, France and northern Nigeria.

1980 is the twentieth anniversary of the independence of all of France's sub-Saharan colonies, except for Guinea's which took place in 1958. One wonders how long the clearest example of the latter day "colonial pact" in Africa can survive, in spite of some of its in-built strengths, as it comes under increasing pressure from all sides.

CSO: 4420

RONDOS REPORTS ON NICE CONFERENCE

London WEST AFRICA in English 19 May 80 pp 865, 867-869

[Article by Alex Rondos on the Franco-African Summit: "Towards a French Commonwealth"]

[Text] A special report from Nice illustrates how African and French leaders tended to avoid the more controversial political issues to concentrate on economics.

TWENTY YEARS AGO all of France's African colonies (with the exception of Guinea which became independent in 1958) were granted independence. Since then these countries have sought, on the whole, a close link with France. Their desire has been more than amply reciprocated. This relationship is now celebrated annually by the Franco-African summit. This year's in Nice was the seventh.

The independence whose twentieth anniversary is celebrated should, judging from the gloom of some participants, be carefully qualified. President Habyarimana of Rwanda, who hosted last year's summit in Kigali, spoke of an impending catastrophe. President Giscard d'Estaing, however, was more optimistic. His fundamental point was that there was a future for Africa, economically, provided the right financing and techniques could be marshalled for the continent's benefit. So far as France was concerned, it was the "avant-garde" of the strengthening of Europe's relations with Africa, the French leader proclaimed in his opening address to the summit. President Senghor was content to devote much of his address at the final press conference — he represented the delegations in his capacity as the doyen of the conference — to the creation of a "Francophone Commonwealth."

In all, there was an obstinate refusal to commit any of the official conference agenda to controversial "political" matters. The agenda was instead filled with discussion of the North-South dialogue, President Giscard's cherished Euro-Arab-African "trilogue", energy, food self-sufficiency and the Francophone Commonwealth on which President Senghor has been delegated at the Kigali summit to prepare a dossier. Some interesting developments were revealed in some of these areas. However, it rendered a certain air of unreality to a conference which for example, refused to deal with Chad formally — an act which was described by a French colleague as simply indecent.

The overall effect, therefore, was to create three parallel conferences. The first is the official one. President Senghor was its doyen in the absence of President Houphouet-Boigny who was welcoming the Pope and coping with some well concealed but dramatic political events at home. Twenty-six countries attended, of which 11 were represented by Heads of State and the rest by ministers (except Mauritania which was represented by its ambassador in Paris). The second conference was unofficial and was reflected in the composition of the delegations. Mauritania's Lt. Col. Haidalla did not come because he was having to cope with a resurgence of political unrest at home; Liberia (specially invited as

host to the OAU last year) did not attend at all — the causes of its absence being remarkably fresh in the minds in a number of delegates. President Houphouet-Boigny has already been accounted for while Chad's illusory Government of National Unity was represented by Lt. Col. Kamougoue, the leader of the remnants of the Force Armées Tchadiennes and otherwise known as the Lion of the South. Meanwhile, Gabon, Zaire, Senegal, Togo, Mali, Niger, Rwanda and Burundi all sent Heads of State. They were all staying at the Hotel Negresco, an extremely elegant hotel turned into a fortress for the occasion, on Nice's famous Promenade des Anglais. Imagine, nevertheless, the conditions this created for facilitating the easy communication of a number of leaders with common interests and who rarely have the opportunity to be within such easy reach of each other. Here, over meals and late into the night, 'political' affairs were discussed.

There is a third level at which the conference operates and that consists of the pressure groups who stand to gain something from making their presence felt both to the journalists and to the delegations. The means by which these groups achieve their aims are peculiar. The attitude of most governments towards a group of collected journalists — to put them together in one hotel and supply them with free drink and a regular dose of anodyne briefings which amounted to statements of the crushingly obvious — can have a reverse effect. The journalists, for all their efforts, cannot reach the delegations, cocooned in another hotel; they become bored, irritated and happy to listen to the cogent arguments of the politically discriminated against. In this case this consisted largely of Hissen Habre's representative, as well as Dr Abba Siddock, the founder of FROLINAT many years and permutations ago, and also the representatives of African workers in France. A group of Togolese dissidents were packed off back to Paris shortly after their arrival and their distribution of "wanted" posters bearing President Eyadema's portrait.

The constructive view

A MORE constructive view of the conference is best acquired by assessing it on its own professed terms of reference: it was economic, social and cultural and *not* "political" it was insisted, which left the main question begging.

The most important contribution of the conference will be that it has added itself to the recent and growing list of public occasions where a detailed post mortem is conducted on the economic calamity that has befallen so many African states. However, to add flavour to the occasion — which after all focuses on France and Africa — it also implied that although the details of France's aid policies have on the whole been more generous than most other countries, the picture as a whole has not been one of a successful and mutually profitable economic partnership.

Some major economic resolutions emerged from the conference. France will commit a greater degree of public aid, no matter what economic and financial problems she is facing today, towards the development of African countries. It is worth noting that the structure of the relationship is not to be changed. The proportionate role of private investment is to be acknowledged by the continuing importance played by the Caisse Centrale de Co-opération Economique, CCCE, the main aim of which is to provide finance for development projects that are undertaken by private companies. This is in contrast to the Fonds d'Aide et de Co-opération, FAC, which is a solely public financing body.

The CCCE mechanism is such that it naturally favours the award of tenders to those enterprises that are well established in the region; the end result has been a remarkable reinforcement of the private industrial and commercial links that exist between France and it former colonies. M. Galley, the French Minister of Co-operation, noted that since the Kigali summit the French aid budget had been increased by 23 per cent from three billion francs to 4.3 billion.

We were informed that discussions about the North-South Dialogue had taken place with a view to preparing for the forthcoming special summit being organised by the UN. The most interesting thing to emerge was that France had been asked to represent the

case of the developing economies, and especially the participants of the summit, at such international meetings. The significance of this can be easily overlooked. But it becomes clear that if anyone is to understand the unusual relationship that exists between France and those parts of Africa it once ruled as a colonial power, then one has to accept a number of nuances. France needs the support of the countries to give it diplomatic clout. They represent a large proportion of those who justify the continued use of French as a diplomatic language. If that is too trivial for some, then it should also be acknowledged that the Gaullist ethos continues to prevail, which was always guided by the notion of French independence in world diplomacy. If this has been somewhat dissipated of late under Giscard d'Estaing, the fact is that France continues to have a large number of allies, or, to be more precise, collaborators, who constitute the ruling elites France created for independence in a continent that many, especially the representatives of the superpowers, see as a future scene of ideological competition, and this makes France a powerful factor in world diplomacy. On the part of these leaders and their supporters, they are only too happy to be represented as a group by France, and they will gladly acknowledge that as Djibouti, Comoros or Gabon, they carry little weight in the major international gatherings. This link, which was celebrated at Nice, is cemented by a very complex set of economic and cultural ties.

President Giscard d'Estaing's hopes for a "trilogue" between the European, Arab and African states moved on a little further. A report presented to the conference made the case for the European recycling of petro-dollars for African economies. An example of what the French President sees as a natural, and almost inevitable link between these three regions, is the fact that of the two billion francs committed to multilateral projects by the CCCE, 800m. francs were devoted to projects with mainly Arab partners. The most striking West African example is the Senegal River Development Organisation, OMVS, the projects of which will be largely financed by Arab money.

The next step is to set about the formalistion of such a relationship. It has been reported that late next year, the French will bring together a summit conference of all the states concerned. Obviously in his recent trips to the Middle East President Giscard d'Estaing felt encouraged and he added that the participants at the Nice summit had been receptive to the idea and that it now remained for him to discuss the idea in greater detail with his European partners.

The scheme is not without its critics. Arabs have noted that their own oil resources are limited and that the petro-dollars are in European banks because of the structure of the international economy. They also refer to the fact that some African countries have not responded to IMF requirements on debts, and ask what would they do with a massive investment of petro-dollars. On the European side there are those who feel that the structure of the Lomé Convention is adequate; some Africans have supported this view suggesting that another organisation supplying aid on such a massive scale could only bring more confusion.

Energy and food

ENERGY AND FOOD production were identified by M. Galley at the preparatory ministerial conference in early April as the principal areas where French aid would have to be either intensified or revised. The background to this is indeed bleak. By the year 2000 the continent's population will have doubled and its capacity to meet its food requirements will have been reduced from the current estimate of 80 per cent to 60 per cent. The Ministry of Co-operation in Paris, working on the statistics of the import bills of 12 of its principal African partners (Cameroon — which was not represented at the summit — Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Central African Republic, Senegal, Chad, Togo and Benin) estimate that their oil bill will have more than doubled between 1978 and 1980. It stood at 115.7 bn. CFA francs in 1978 and rose to 157 bn. in 1979. If the price of the barrell of oil remains below $33 in 1980, that bill will rise to 243 bn. and if the barrel goes up to $35 then the import bill will be over 260 bn.

The French now propose that hydro-electric energy should become a priority. Similarly, solar and bio-energy should receive far greater attention than has been the case so far. African forests should be used to make methanol. The essence of M. Galley's message was that with careful planning 100,000 hectares of forest would permit, in the best conditions, the annual production of an equivalent of one million tonnes of oil. France, M. Galley said, was already in the process of examining the possibilities in this field and it was quite possible that within the next three years the first stages of the plan could start to materialise.

The official acknowledgement that indiscriminate dishing out of food aid has had a negative effect on the domestic markets of many African economies is one of the significant aspects of this summit. There have been many groups who have advocated a reduction of direct food aid except in emergencies. A document published for the conference by the Ministry of Co-operation puts some of the official French views very bluntly; it states that by 1980 the cereal deficit in the Sahel could reach an annual average of one million tonnes, with Senegal accounting for half of that. Some might dispute the proposition of the ministry that the deficit is largely due to demographic circumstances — the growth of populations, especially their concentration in urban areas, and also the drop in the mortality rate. The report also notes that with the current financial constraints on the world economy it has become much easier for the "Americans to regularise cereal production". As a result, import prices will rise and once again the only solution will be food aid.

Faults in food aid

The end result is scarcely encouraging, as the report puts it: "International food aid has permitted the salvation of lives and has been of great assistance in the last droughts, but one cannot imagine the institutionalisation of such aid. The Sahelian states themselves have begun to appreciate that the repeated recourse to emergency aid is not a good way of solving their food problems. First of all, the international aid supplied rarely reaches those who have the greatest need of it. Then the constant recourse of cereal importation can seriously damage the recovery of national production." The French attitude therefore is one which suggests that a total strategy must be developed to replace the almost anarchic approach to food shortages in the Sahel.

If this may seem obvious to many, it is a rare occasion that a government is prepared to put the facts quite so clearly. They go on to touch on one of the fundamental issues — domestic marketing policies. "For years, the consumer in the Sahel, and especially in the towns, has been favoured by a policy keeping down cereal prices. Perhaps it is time to tilt the balance in the other direction and to practice a price policy that is more attractive for the producer. But it is true that any action on prices is made delicate by the inevitable repercussions that a rise in cereal prices would have on incomes and in particular on incomes in the public service." The state in the Sahel is the largest employer, and any rise on wages has an immediate effect on the State's coffers.

A Francophone Commonwealth

AT LAST YEAR'S Franco-African summit in Kigali, President Senghor was delegated to oversee the draughting of a report on the possible creation of a Francophone Commonwealth. With obvious pleasure therefore, President Senghor announced at the final press conference that such an organisation has now been agreed to. He devoted much of his address at the news conference to just this issue. On November 5 all the states in the world which use the French language are to meet in Dakar. They will discuss a series of proposals put forward by commissions which are in the process of being constituted. However, the main aim of the meeting will be to discuss and expand on the document put forward, and endorsed at the Nice summit, for an "organic community" of Francophone states. President Senghor said that its member Heads of State would meet every two years, and that there would be ministerial meetings at the same intervals. There is to be a Secretariat with a Secretary General, very much on the line of the British Commonwealth. President Senghor said he had been in close touch with the Commonwealth Secretariat in London. However, he emphasised that his

proposal was in no way intended to be seen as an opponent of its British counterpart. President Giscard d'Estaing, emphasied that this would be a loosely knit organisation. There is some evidence too that the plan did not meet with the wholehearted approval of all the participants at the summit, but that they finally agreed.

At the heart of the entire plan lies President Senghor's avowed belief in the unifying qualities of the French culture and language. This is based on his own complex theory of the creation of a universal civilisation in which individuality is to be respected. At the same time, however, (and he spoke of this in his final news conference), he see the gradual development of a "*métissage culturelle*" — cultural miscegenation would be one way of putting it. The biological side of it is achieved "naturally", the President said, while this Commonwealth will achieve the cerebral element.

The document presented to the summit bears all the hallmarks of Senghorian inspiration. Above all, the basic assumption is that all progress and development is conditional upon a similar cultural process. For those who tend to be dismissive of the Senegalese President's theories — and they are many — it is worth noting one extract from the report: "If the French language is intimately linked to the genius and thought of France, *Francophone*, as such, in the eyes of a certain number of countries, remains no less associated to a recent past which has been characterised by relations of domination. Both as the language of alienation and of liberation of many people, French must at present play an important role in the diffusion of cultures of the Third World, in the search for new links between national cultures and endogenous development, between socio-cultural development and economic development." The French language, therefore, will play a major role, in the eyes of President Senghor, in the eventual formation of a "culture of the universal."

Undoubtedly President Senghor is the motivating force for the idea of such a Commonwealth. However, only he seems to appreciate the full implications of his theory, and once he is gone, one wonders whether both his successors and other participants in the project will share his enthusiasm for the commitment to the power of culture.

Chadian views

THE ONLY "POLITICAL" statement made at the summit concerned Chad. Col. Kamougue, representing what is now regarded as merely Chad's nominal Government of National Unity, was allowed to address the summit on the conflict in his country. It was an ambiguous speech. He refereed to all the other representatives of Chad's factions who had come to Nice as mere "tourists". He said that he felt there was a confusion between Chadians who are favourable to Libya and the existence of actual Libyan columns in Chad. He also expressed his surprise at France's decision to withdraw from Chad. The withdrawal, he felt, could have been negotiated and put into effect by an agreement. President Giscard d'Estaing meanwhile confirmed that French troops would be withdrawn, thus leaving the way open for the OAU to act.

President Senghor confirmed the discussions that took place at Lagos at the end of April when it was decided that the OAU would have one more try at sending in troops from Guinea, Benin and Congo as a peace-keeping force. The means of financing would have to be decided at the Freetown summit of the OAU. If this initative fails then the UN will be called upon to intervene.

Dr. Abba Siddick, one of the founders of FROLINAT and long-time resident in Tripoli, Algiers and Paris and most recently Minister of Higher Education in the Government of National Unity was also present at Nice. While trying to maintain his independence from all the other factions, he was clearly favourable to Hissen Habre. However, more important, he called on the French not to withdraw, and announced that he regarded the French as the best placed to impose a ceasefire in N'Djamena. Considering that he has spent much of his political career cursing the French, many of the gathered journalists regarded this idea as hypocrisy, he was content to reply that peace is imperative in Chad and that anyway politics is the art of the possible.

There is little doubt that at Nice, just as at Lagos, the dismissal of Hissen Habre as Minister of Defence by President

Goukhouni two weeks ago was seen as illegal by most participants. This point was emphasised by Hissen Habre's emissaries who made themselves constantly available for consultation to the press. They made the telling point that the Government of National Unity is *not* one selected by Goukhouni, it is the result of an agreement signed at Lagos which left places open in the government for the representatives of the 11 factions of Chad which were signatories. In effect therefore, one is a minister in Chad by dint of one's allegiance to a recognised faction. Goukhouni's authority, they maintained, was thus carefully circumscribed by the Lagos agreement of last August. The FAN representatives also alleged that three columns of the Islamic Force, consisting of Chadians and other nationals brought together by Libya and trained by Libyans, have advanced well into Chad and that one column had split to go to the assistance of Col. Kamougue. It is also known now that ground to ground SAM missiles have been used against Hissen Habre's men.

Let the last word remain with Dr Siddick, with whom many would choose to disagree; in his opinion the only leader of a faction who can be said to command his forces effectively is Hissen Habre. His second point, in a brief conversation afterwards, was that Nigeria had tried to impose a peace to the extent of sending troops to N'Djamena and had not succeeded, but it was equally unlikely that peace in a conflict as complicated as Chad's can be brought about by a series of one or two day conferences. He obviously had the Lancaster House talks in mind.

CSO: 4420

TRADE UNIONISM AND DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSED

London WEST AFRICA in English 19 May 80 pp 877-78

[Article by Ad'Obe Obe considers the recently formed (West Africa, March 24) Commonwealth Trades Union Council in a wider international context.

[Text]

THE BRANDT COMMISSION will at least be remembered for succinctly pointing out the dangers of stratification of human societies, especially at the international level. The report argued for peace through elimination of disparities, to the extent that whatever differences may remain are palatable to the people on both sides. The main areas of difference are in wealth and power. The aims of the Commission are close to those of trade union movements, but whereas the Commission more or less pleads the unions are involved in the struggle. It is the spirit of this struggle which is behind the formation of the Commonwealth Trade Union Council.

After many years of informal contacts trade union organisations within the Commonwealth have now established a body, the Commonwealth Trade Union Council (CTUC), to maintain and strengthen their links. The President is Mr. Dennis McDermott, President of the Canadian Labour Congress, the Director is Mr. Carl Wright, former Secretary to the Economic and Social Committee of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU).

The CTUC, which came into existence on March 1 this year, is based in London, it has a membership of 25 million workers who belong to trade union organisations in 40 Commonwealth countries. It aims, through enhanced co-operation between the national trade unions, to promote the interest of workers by influencing the decisions of employers, governments and institutions within the Commonwealth.

As the Commonwealth consists of a varied mixture of peoples living in about one third of the world's independent nations with differing economic capabilities — the majority of the nations are ex-British colonies in the South, it is an entity whose economic dynamics is representative of the North-South polarisation. The CTUC is therefore justified in its belief that it is in a position to contribute to the North-South Dialogue and the New International Economic Order, as analysed and prescribed by the recent report of the Brandt Commission. According to Carl Wright the report embraces the main aspirations of international labour movements and the CTUC hopes to use it as a major source of ideas.

The Report notes that "Most Third World countries regard industrialisation as a central objective of their economic policy . . . The drive towards it reflects deeply felt needs for modernisation and economic independence". The recommendations amount to industrial revolution in these countries, and there will be a massive increase of workers in manufacturing from its present low level of perhaps 5 per cent in the poorest countries.

To obtain fair labour standards the workers will have to organise themselves into forces to be reckoned with, they will therefore need every assistance they can get from the more experienced labour movements of the North. The CTUC aims to help to

organise trade unions and "promote acceptance of, and respect for, trade unionism".

Since much of the production and trade in manufactures from the Third World countries "takes place within the worldwide operations of multinational corporations", world-wide solidarity of the employees of these companies would certainly increase their bargaining power. Apart from a recent exception by Volkswagen in Germany the multinationals have so far refused to face the international fronts of their workers, their insistence on talking only to workers at individual plants was described by Carl Wright as "the method of divide and rule". The CTUC hopes to be able to bring international pressure to bear on obstinate companies, and perhaps employ the occasional sympathy strike, but they lack (at present) the global muscle to pull off any sustained international industrial action.

Protectionist policy

If, as the Report recommends, the Third World countries are drawn more into world trade their workers' security of employment will become more dependent on how much their manufactures are sold in other countries. The danger here is the possibility of exporting unemployment to the North, hence the argument for protectionism which is often backed by affected unions. Carl Wright says the CTUC's stand on protectionism will be along the lines suggested by the Brandt Commission.

In the Report's view "Imports from the Third World can play a significant part in dampening inflation in the North. Furthermore, to limit the exports of developing countries will reduce their ability to import, (to buy), thus both hindering the creation of new, more productive jobs in the North and forcing the developing countries to borrow more. This in turn makes it harder to service their debts, which puts additional strain on an already precarious financial situation."

Instead of protectionism the Report calls on all countries to adapt and adjust, using non-discriminatory and internationally negotiated safeguard measures. The difficulty here, Carl Wright admits, is to convince the workers who regard themselves as victims of 'adjustment' that their lost jobs is a worthwhile sacrifice to create a harmonious world order.

Unions may resist the temptation to ask for protection from competition but they will be opposed to exploitation of the workers, which can be easy in countries where the people are poor and organised labour is weak. The Report judges that, "Exports that result from working conditions which do not respect minimum social standards relevant to a given society are unfair to the workers directly involved, to workers of competing Third World exporting countries and to workers of importing countries whose welfare is undermined. They are also unfair to business concerns and countries which encourage social progress".

The achievements of trade unions depend on the rights of workers to associate and organise. In many Third World countries these rights are determined by the ruling elite, whose wealth also controls the economy; consequently opposition to union power in these countries often extends beyond the traditional one — a leader is quoted to have said that trade unionism is a luxury which only the rich countries can afford. Carl Wright wants to say to such leaders that their countries' participation in the world economic order internationalises their labour standards; and apart from international pressure which could be brought to bear on them he has one message for them: "Support of organised labour means support of the people".

Such a leader could reply that 'support of the people' is only a figment of the worker's imagination, and he could back this up with the strict monetarist argument that organised labour is not a market force. Why should those with the power worry about support from the people if they have other means of effectively controlling the other forces? The crux of the matter is change. The Brandt Commission says that not only is change inevitable but co-operation is the only method of ensuring its smoothness.

National trade union organisation have used the findings of commission and sociological surveys but experience has shown that more strength is required to bring about any change. It will be a long time before international labour organisation will be able to do more than wave copies of international reports, resolutions and conventions at employers and governments, with the hope of getting them to speak the same language. But it is easy to imagine that those with the advantages may be seeking other ways of propagating the existing multi-lingual set-up.

CSO: 4420

UPDEA ABIDJAN SEMINAR ON ELECTRIC-POWER I[illegible]RCONNECTION REPORTED

Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 May 80

[5 May 80 pp 1, 3]

[Text] UPDEA [Union of Producers, Conveyors and Distributors of Electric Power in African Countries, Madagascar and Mauritius]--Developing Hydroelectric Energy--A Seminar on the Interconnection of the African Networks Opens Today

> If the African countries want to reduce their dependence on oil, the best way to achieve this is still, indisputably, exploitation of the hydroelectric potentials. But as regards electric power, these countries must imperatively adopt an adequate policy of concertation and cooperation by which they can avoid the risk of waste.
>
> For these reasons, then, the seminar opening this morning at the Stabilization Fund under the aegis of the UPDEA, which groups 17 of the continent's countries, is important. And the principal subject to be discussed in the seminar--that is, the proposal for interconnection of the countries of West Africa and Central Africa--is eloquent in itself.

An important seminar attended by 17 members of the UPDEA opens at the Stabilization Fund in Abidjan this morning on the proposal for interconnection of the countries of West and Central Africa.

The seminar, which will last 5 days, is under the patronage of the chief of state and under the effective chairmanship of Mamadou Coulibaly, president of the Economic and Social Council.

The members of the UPDEA are 18 electric-power companies of 17 countries of West and Central Africa--Benin, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Congo, Central African Republic, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Upper Volta, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, N[illegible]ger, Senegal, Togo, Rwanda, Zaire.

The decisive role that energy plays in both the economic and the social activities of any country, and more particularly, the preponderant position presently held by oil in the world's energy supply, no longer need to be deomonstrated.

However, the increase in the prices of petroleum products has considerable repercussions on the development of the countries of the Third World, whose energy needs are constantly growing, and heavily penalizes the African countries that are forced to look to oil to meet a large part of their energy needs.

In the face of this situation, which promises to be more difficult in the course of the coming decades, Africa is obliged to devote special attention to development of its energy resources and to any solution that is alternative to oil.

African production of electricity is furnished essentially by hydroelectric power plants and thermal power plants that burn oil.

An inquiry carried out in 1978 in 20 countries of West and Central Africa showed that 26 percent of the installed electric power in these countries came from thermal production. This proportion will only grow to meet the ever-increasing needs of our developing economies.

A complete inventory has not been made, but Africa's economic and economically and technically exploitable hydroelectric potential is estimated at 1 quadrillion watthours.

This potential has barely been tapped, as is clear simply from the fact that less than 5 percent of it is presently equipped, while evaluation of around 50 percent of the sites has been done.

The potential is poorly distributed, though. Indeed, according to the estimates of the ECA [(United Nations) Economic Commission for Africa], Central Africa alone has 46 percent of the continent's total potential, two-thirds of it in Zaire, while North Africa has only 5 percent, West Africa about 10 percent, East Africa 22 percent, and Southern Africa 17 percent.

Despite the high investment cost, the gradual exploitation of the hydraulic potential remains one of the solutions which Africa must use in order to reduce its dependence on oil.

Reasonable Soution

While exploitation of the hydroelectric potential in Africa is more and more a necessity, the risk of wastage would be great in the absence of an adequate policy of concertation and cooperation among African countries in the matter of electrical energy. Interconnection of the electric-power networks constitutes the most reasonable approach to reducing this risk and covering the electrical-energy needs under satisfactory conditions, while at the same eliminating the inequalities in the geographical distribution of the sites.

A preliminary study financed jointly by the ADB and the IBRD [International Bank for Reconstruction and Development], under the aegis of the UPDEA, has made it possible to determine the preliminary requirements for "the prefeasibility study for interconnection of the electric-power networks of West and Central Africa."

The prefeasibility study on interconnection of the networks will cover the following African countries: Benin, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Congo, Central African Republic, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Upper Volta, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Chad, Togo, Rwanda, Burundi, Zaire, Zambia, Angola, Rhodesia. It will include evaluation of the sites in each of the countries, the program for development of the natinal electric-power networks on the basis of the economic development program of each of the countries, integration of all these networks at the level of Africa as a whole, as well as the different intermediate phases which it would be advisable to go through in order to achieve this interconnection in accordance with the economic criteria of an acceptable return.

This study cannot be carried out without the agreement of the governments of the countries concerned, since it commits the future of their energy and economic policy and will be conducted partly on their territories--which is the reason why the UPDEA has organized a seminar of introduction and sensitization to the problems of interconnection of electric-power networks.

The UPDEA's objective in organizing this seminar is to conduct an economic prefeasibility study on interconnection of the electirc-power networks of the countries of West and Central Africa. Since this aim can be achieved only if the countries concerned agree unreservedly to it, the agreement sought should be at the "political" and "technical" levels. The seminar on interconnection should make it possible to sensitize our governments to the solutions sought for the African energy problem. During the seminar, the participants will be informed about the various problems that the study raises and will issue directives as guidelines for the work of the organism or organs assigned to carry it out.

[6 May 80 p 3]

[Text] UPDEA Seminar--The African Producers Are Studying the Possibilities for Exchange of Energy

"The possibilities for exchanges of electrical energy are...one of the factors making it possible to achieve the economic independence of Africa, since the continent's renewable-energy potential, and more particularly the hydraulic potential, are considerable." Abdoulaye Kone, minister of economy, finance and plan, made this statement yesterday morning on the occasion of the opening of the UPDEA seminar. This seminar, which will last to 8 May, is being held at the Stabilization Fund, and some 20 countries of our continent are taking part in it. Mamadou Coulibaly, president of the Economic and Social Council, chaired the opening session, surrounded by several personalities, including Lambert Konan, general director of the EECI [Ivory Coast Electric Power Company].

Issa Diop, general director of the Senegalese Energy-Distribution Company and president of the UPDEA, was the first to give a speech, in which, reviewing the world economic recession, due in part ot the rise in the price of oil, he stated the role which the organization (the UPDEA) intends to play to make its "contribution to the African energy problem."

Interconnection, which is a theme of the seminar, refers to a system for exchanges of energy among the countries of our continent. On a transport line linking the countries with one another, several of them can thus be supplied. Interconnection is consequently a solution that enables a country without sufficient supplies to draw them from a neighbor, on a regular basis, in each case as the electric power is guaranteed to it at a better cost than would result from thermal production, for example.

Particular Attention

The fact is that African electric-power production comes essentially from hydroelectric power plants and thermal power plants operating on oil. An inquiry carried out in 1978 in 18 countries of West and Central Africa showed that on the average, 26 percent of the total power in these countries come from thermal production.

Actually, many countries of our continent have thermal production only. And the foreseeable rises in the prices of petroleum products make production of electricity of thermal origin prohibitive. Consequently, it would be reasonable for the African countries to give particular attention to gradual development of their hydroelectric resources, to avoid economic asphyxiation.

Our continent does indeed have great hydroelectric wealth, economic and technically exploitable, estimated at 1 trillion Kwh.

Only 5 percent of this fabulous energy potential is presently equipped and exploited, while about 50 percent of the sites have been evaluated.

This African electric-power potential is poorly distributed. Central Africa alone has 46 percent of it, two-thirds of which is in Zaire. East Africa is next with 22 percent, followed by Southern Africa with 17 percent, then West Africa at 10 percent, and finally, North Africa, which has only 5 percent of it.

The main thing is that while exploitation of Africa's hydroelectric potential is more and more a necessity, the risk of wastage remains great in the absence of an adequate policy of concertation among the countries of the continent in the matter of electric power. Interconnection is consequently the most reasonable way to reduce the risk of waste and cover the electrical-energy needs under satisfactory conditions, while eliminating the inequalities in the geographical distribution of the sites.

In this regard, we can cite the example of Inga in Zaire. If this site were equipped completely, the electric power available would be 40 million kilo-

watts producible throughout the year. Such a quantity of electricity would then be quite a bit higher than total Zairian consumption. It appears, then, that the Inga site could furnish 600 to 700 MW to certain of our countries, including Nigeria, which greatly needs it. Countries such as the Congo, Gabon and Cameroon would thereby become customers for this Zairian production.

Feasibility Study

Interconnection is actually well-known in Africa. However, its scope remains limited because of the sizes of the networks have been restricted to only the needs of the projects concerned, and generally between neighboring countries. But the interconnection that will be discussed during the present seminare will integrate the needs of several countries at a time, and requires that this aspect of the problem be taken into account in the framework of the national studies.

The task to be accomplished is therefore on a very large scale. And the preliminary study, jointly financed by the ADB and the IBRD, under the aegis of the UPDEA, has made it possible to propose the terms of reference for the "prefeasibility study for interconnection of the electric-power networks of West and Central Africa."

This prefeasibility study will involve Benin, Cameroon, the Ivory Coast, the Congo, the Central African Republic, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Upper Volta, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Chad, Togo, Rwanda, Burundi, Zaire, Zambia, Angola and Zimbabwe.

Two years ago, in March 1977 [as published], a conference on interconnection of the electric-power networks of the countries of Africa was held in Abidjan. It was decided during this meeting to carry out a preliminary study that would establish proposed terms of reference for a feasibility study.

We can note with satisfaction the work done since then by the UPDEA, which has specifically organized this seminar, the interest of which is obvious to all. This organization, whose members are 18 electric-power companies, numbers among its finest achievements the creation of the training school for electric-power engineers of Bingerville. As Issa Diop, its chairman, said--his speech yesterday morning was a very valuable one--the UPDEA is a "specialized instrument at the disposal of Africa."

[7 May 80 p 3]

[Text] UPDEA Seminar on Interconnection--Africa Can Draw Inspiration from Foreign Experience--The Proceedings End Tomorrow

The UPDEA's seminare on interconnection of the African electric-power networks is continuing with its work, which began Monday morning in the Stabilization Fund in Plateau. This international meeting, which brings together some 20 countries of our continent, is punctuated by a series of communica-

tions. Three papers were read on Monday afternoon. The speakers were Bernard Chardenet, vice president of the IBRD, and official of the African Development bank, and Daniel Vincent, division chief in the General Department of Development of the European Development Fund.

Yesterday also was devoted to communications. [illegible] Schwab gave a "general description of interconnection in Europe." The African states--countries without great experience in technological matters--will in effect have to draw inspiration from models in existence elsewhere.

The paper by the assistant director of AAR [expansion unknown] and Tessin (Swiss electric-power corporation) gave the participants in the UPDEA-organized seminar an even more precise idea about what the UPDEA proposes to do for our continent.

Europe, of course, by reason of its climatic and geographical conditions, does not have the same situation as Africa as regards interconnection of electric-power networks. Consequently, the Africans will have to consider an adaptation of the technology that can produce the best possible output.

Transfer of Technology

Andre Merlin, chief of the Optimization Methods Department in EDF [French Electric (Power) Company], dealt with "economic aspects of interconnection in Europe." This is one of the essential points of the electric-power exchange operation. And Abdoulaye Kone, minister of economy, finance and plan, stressed this very well on Monday morning; he considered that "the possibilities of electrical-energy exchange constitute one of the factors making it possible to achieve Africa's economic independence...."

"The technical aspects of interconnection in Europe" were also the subject of a statement by Claudio Barbesino, an official of an Italian electric-power company. For us Africans, the problem of technology transfer (which comes up continually and has had the specialists' attention in many international conferences, including the North-South dialog) is posed within the framework of a program as ambitious as interconnection of the African electric-power networks. It is up to the experts of various UPDEA member countries to think about the best way to carry out such an operation in a purely African context, with means coming from elsewhere.

North Africa, because of its enormous hydraulic potential and also because of its highly advanced technology, is certainly one of the models from which the Africans can draw inspiration. The hydroelectric possibilities of Canada and the United States, which are rich in water, are so great that they are clearly beyond their consumption needs. Because of this, these countries have always tried to sell electrical energy to other countries, and their experience is instructive.

In Africa, we have interconnection done from Ghana to neighboring states. A few months ago, the Ivory Coast signed an interconnection agreement with

that country. The Akossombo dam, built on the Volta River, is one of the most imposing on our continent.

This dam, which is clearly beyond Ghana's needs, can make it possible to supply all the countries of the region. It is a link in the inter-African cooperation that could be established for electricity. Consequently it is clear that the holding of this seminar on interconnection of the electric-power networks is an important step in the set of actions undertaken to raise our continent from its state of underdevelopment.

[8 May 80 p 5]

[Text] Interconnection of the African Electric-Power Networks: the Delegates Examined Various Aspects of the Proposal Yesterday--The Seminar Ends at 1600 Hours This Afternoon

[Photo caption]: Kouassi Akon, of the EECI, presented the preliminary sutdy on interconnection of the electric-power networks of West and Central Africa. His presentation revealed that just the three countries of Zaire, Nigeria and Ghana possess 75 percent of the continent's means of hydroelectric production. [Photo not reproduced]

The UPDEA seminar, which began Monday morning, comes to an end at 1600 hours this afternoon at the Stabilization Fund. For 4 days, the delegates from a number of African countries have worked on the proposal for interconnection of the electric-power networks of Africa. Officials from international organizations as well as from certain specialized organisms of the United Nations also took part in the proceedings.

During yesterday's meeting, there was discussion in particular of the preliminary study and the objectives of the prefeasibility study.

It was during the UPDEA congress in Kinshasha in 1976 that the General Assembly, considering the energy problems that had begun with the oil crisis of 1973, recommended to the organization's steering committee that it call in a consultant to do a prospective study of interconnections of the electric-power networks in Africa.

The discussion meeting held in Abidjan a little after that produced the decision to work on this preliminary study.

The aim of the preliminary study was to pinpoint the objectives and schedule of a prefeasibility study on interconnection in West and Central Africa. It was also thought to propose a methodology applicable to execution of the prefeasibility study in its different phases. It was also considered advisable to establish the total and schedule of the investments needed for this study. Assigned to ORGATEC [expansion unknown], the study was financed by the ADB, with funds from the ACDI [expansion unknown] and the World Bank.

The preliminary study, which consisted of an inquiry, made it possible to gather information on Africa's means for production of electricity. As one can imagine, this information is of great importance for the quality of the prefeasibility study. The prefeasibility study, carried out in all the countries concerned, has produced better knowledge of the frequencies used in the various countries, the voltages used in the transport grids and the existing interconnections, the rate systems, the development plans or studies existing in the countries involved, and analysis of the personnel resources of the companies and of the training centers that could help to train cadres.

Transport Grids

This study produced the information that apart from Liberia, which uses 60-hertz current, all the member countries of the UPDEA use 50-hertz electrical current.

The same study brought out the wide variation in electrical voltage from one country to another.

As regards production means, it is noted that 63.4 per cent of the countries use hydraulic power, 17 percent burn oil, and 10 percent use gas or steam.

Just the five countries of Zaire, Nigeria, Cameroon, Ghana and the Ivory Coast possess the main part of the hydroelectric production of the two subregions. They have about 90 percent of the existing means of production.

As regards transport grids, the inquiry produced a complete inventory of what already exists. There are interconnections from Zaire to Zambia, Burundi, Rwanda, the Congo. In West Africa, there is the connection between Nigeria and Niger, and the one from Ghana to Togo and Benin. There are also connection proposals, including that between the Ivory Coast and Ghana.

This investigation, carried out in some 20 countries of the western and central parts of our continent, revealed that the geographical distribution of energy resources is unequal among the African countries in which the inquiry was conducted. The fact is that Ghana, Nigeria and Zaire possess 75 percent of the hydroelectric potential (installed) of our continent. It was also noted that many countries of the two subregions have energy potentials which are not exploited.

This situation is explained either by the very high cost of hydroelectric installations or by the fact that the immediate needs of the countries concerned are fully covered.

Guinea, Mali and Gabon are of the latter case. Many countries could also be self-sufficient if all their resources were exploited.

It was also established that certain countries have no hydroelectric possibilities, which consequently obliges them to use steam-powered thermal plants.

These deficiencies show clearly the importance and advisability of an interconnection system among African countries.

In this regard, one understand Issa Diop, president of the UPDEA, when he declares that the energy problems should be thought of today "as problems to be solved in the short term, not the long term." In his view, the countries of our continent must put the problem of energy at the top of their priority lists.

For the chiefs of state asked in Lagos a few days ago that the continent's organizations concerns themselves above all with economic problems. This, in the opinion of the general director of the Senegalese electrical energy and distribution company, presupposes that the political will, without which nothing is possible, exists among the Africans.

[9 May 80 p 3]

[Text] End of Seminar on Interconnection of the African Electric-Power Networks--Political Will Essential to Carrying Out Project

The international seminar on interconnection of electric-power networks organized by the UPDEA ended yesterday afternoon. Abdoulaye Kone, minister of economy, finance and plan, chaired the closing ceremony in the presence of several personalities, including Lambert Konan, general director of the EECI. The final resolution from the seminar demonstrates the unreserved support and approval of the participants in the UPDEA-organized seminar for the carrying-out of a prefeasibility study for interconnection of the electric-power networks of the western and central parts of our continent.

The participants asked the governments and electric-power companies of the countries involved in this study to collaborate actively and unreservedly to carry it out. In view of the decisive role of electrical energy in the process of economic and social development of any country, but especially in view of the uncontrollable rise in the cost of oil, which is a considerable burden on the budgets of our young states, the importance of this seminar just concluded is easily understood.

This meeting has obviously aroused great interest, which was felt throughout the 4 days of sessions that brought together Africans, Europeans and Americans. The seminar was also attended by international organisms, financing organisms, and technical organizations, both African and European. And the conclusion drawn by the officials of the UPDEA, who are the principal organizers of this meeting in Abidjan, is that their seminar was received as a "necessary step for the progress of the African countries," as stated by Issa Diop, president of this African organization.

Mr Diop does not conceal the extent of the task, and thinks that such an objective can be reached only if the African states themselves have the will to achieve it.

This, in his opinion, means that the chiefs of state must "determine to have this political will" which goes in the direction of African unity, in which interconnection of the continent's electric-power networks constitutes one phase.

The UPDEA's meeting on interconnection shows that a detailed study of the subject remains to be done. There will be inquiries at the level of each state in order to draw up an energy-development plan. This means an inventory of all the resources and needs, with a view to determining the real potential of each country.

Such a document will have the virtue, among others, of making a coherent development plan possible. For each country will then have a very clear idea of its own means and also of those of the other countries.

Complex Effort

It is not just a matter of taking an inventory. The task will in fact be to determine in particular the conditions for integration of the various networks. This effort is doubtlessly a highly complex one, in view of its legal, technical and other aspects.

For example, there is the question of guaranteeing these interconnections, especially as regards continuity and regularity of production and distribution of electricity. For the most important thing, as Issa Diop expressed it, is not to connect wires but rather to "connect wills." Maintaining regularity of production and distribution of electrical energy is an essential action, no matter what the political ups and downs may be.

It is important that each member state understand the sense of its interests and the role that it must play at the level of the entire continent.

About 1.5 billion will be necessary for financing the study. For this purpose, the UPDEA is "quite naturally" thinking of the ADB.

Consequently, this inter-African financial institution will serve as financial spokesman with a view to finding all the sources of financing and "bringing together all the goodwill" needed for the project to take concrete form.

As is known, the ADB, the World Bank, the European Development Fund, the Canadian International Development Agency, UNIDO [United Nations Industrial Development Organization], UNDP [UN Development Program], etc, have participated in the work. The interest they have taken in the project is undeniable. Consequently, hope is justified. But Issa Diop proposes the support of the Organization of African Unity for achieving the exchange of electricity among African states. For what is involved today is only the interconnection of electric-power networks among the states of the western and central parts of the continent, the project would certainly gain by being extended to all of Africa.

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MACHEL-MUGABE DISCUSS USE OF PORTS, UMTALI PIPELINE

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 May 80 p 3

[Text] The Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, and President Machel discussed Zimbabwe's use of Mozambican ports and the reopening of the oil pipeline to Umtali in their historic meeting on Friday.

Mr Mugabe said Zimbabwe's use of the rail links with Beira and Maputo needed to be speeded up, but added that this did not mean his country would make less use of South Africa's ports for Zimbabwe's imports and exports, the Mozambique Information Agency said in a report monitored by Iana.

The agency said that Mr Mugabe landed just before noon at Beira Airport in an Air Zimbabwe Viscount, while two MiG 17 fighter bombers of the Mozambique Air Force roared overhead in greeting.

Embraced

The Prime Minister and President Machel embraced warmly on the tarmac and walked hand in hand before a cheering crowd of about 3,000 people.

The two leaders were also given a display of traditional dancing, as well as a performance by a group of ZANLA guerillas dancing to "chimurenga" songs.

At the opening of the talks, the agency reports, President Machel described the landing of Mr Mugabe's Air Zimbabwe aircraft as "a moment of great emotion when the dream has become a reality". He went on to stress that the victory over the "Rhodesian racists" was to be superseded by a struggle in the economic sphere.

In reply, Mr Mugabe said: "The past quarrels have now been ameliorated by independence. Whatever hate there was we must now turn into love."

The suffering and destruction of the civil war bound the two countries together, and they were now to aim to "heal the wounds of war together"

Mr Mugabe left Beira at about 5 p.m., accompanied by his delegation.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

ZIMBABWE MISSION TO TANZANIA--The Deputy Minister of Education and Culture, Mrs Victoria Chitepo, left for Dar es Salaam yesterday, on an educational mission. She told the ZBC in an interview before her departure that while in Tanzania, she would finalise some of the educational projects which were started during the liberation war. This would help the Government to incorporate its programmes within the framework being arranged for students studying abroad. Mrs Chitepo will also attend the OAU session of the Standing Committee of the Liberation Committee and other meetings. The Liberation Committee will be meeting next week and most African Foreign Ministers are expected to attend. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 27 May 80 p 1]

SWIMMERS CUT TIES WITH SA--Johannesburg--Zimbabwe's acceptance into FINA, the international swimming federation, has caused the country to sever swimming ties with South Africa. The Zimbabwe Aquatic Union president, Mr Ron Ward, said yesterday his union received confirmation last week from FINA of their membership, reports Iana. This means six Zimbabwe swimmers and divers will now compete in the Moscow Olympics. "As members of FINA, we are not permitted to have any swimming contact with South Africa. We very much regret this, but we have to consider our own future," said Mr Ward. Mr Issy Kramer, president of the S. A. Amateur Swimming Union, said: "Good luck to them. I wish them every success in the future and at the Olympic Games." [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 27 May 80 p 1]

ZIMBABWE-BOTSWANA FLIGHTS--Direct flights between Botswana and Zimbabwe are likely to be introduced early in July, according to Government and Air Botswana sources here. It is understood a provisional timetable provides for twice-weekly flights linking Gaborone Selebi Pikwe, Francistown and Bulawayo. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 28 May 80 p 1]

GUINEA ASSURES LIBERIA--The Government of Guinea has assured Liberia that it will live up to its treaty commitments with Liberia as they were not based on personalities but rather on the people of the two countries. The Foreign Minister, M.G. Baccus Matthews, said in a radio and television broadcast that the Guinean President had revealed that he had been aware of the contradictions on the Liberian society and that recent events in the country was not surprising. Mr Matthews said the President indicated that he and President Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast had called the late President Tolbert's attention to the grave situation that was developing in Liberia. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 5 May 80 p 807]

CSO: 4420

NGUEMA LAUDS MOROCCAN COOPERATION, GUIDANCE

LD271403 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 11 May 80 pp 1, 3

[Abdelhai Aboulkhatib Malabo report on Equatorial Guinea including text of interview with Equatorial Guinea President Obiang Nguema: "I Have Been Impressed by His Majesty King Hassan II's Political Range and His Familiarity With African Problems"]

[Excerpt] LE MATIN: Mr President, a few minutes after your return to Malabo, what conclusions do you draw from your visit to Morocco?

President Nguema: Try as I could to express my inner feelings, I would certainly be unable to express in words my gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, his government and his people for their warm welcome, touching hospitality and readiness to give us their sincere aid within a framework of beneficial cooperation. To tell the truth, I knew in advance that His Majesty King Hassan II would welcome me in such a way and lavish on me his greatly appreciated and useful advice.

I promise you that I will follow it to the letter because I am convinced that it will contribute toward the happiness, prosperity and security of my people.

This fraternal atmosphere has very naturally helped along our discussions whose aim was to establish cooperation between Morocco and Equatorial Guinea which is bound to prove successful.

What more can I tell you except that I retain a superlative impression from my visit to Morocco. This is especially due to the fact that I discovered in His Majesty King Hassan II one of the most remarkable statesmen in modern times. I was greatly impressed by his political caliber, his profound analysis of, his views on, and complete familiarity with African problems.

Let me repeat that I will never forget his advice pertaining to the political, economic, social and cultural spheres which will benefit my people and guide the supreme military committee in the management of our affairs.

LE MATIN: Could you tell us about the results of your action since the downfall of dictator Macie?

President Nguema: I must admit that I am unable to do so. It is very difficult considering the situation which we have inherited and the enormous amount of work which awaits us.

However, I can tell you that the fact that my people have emerged from an unimaginable nightmare is already an end in itself. My people can scarcely believe that they are now free and that they live under a regime which guarantees civil liberties including freedom of speech and freedom of assembly. For 11 years, they never imagined that man could be free. My people have emerged from an abyss and they have roused themselves from their torpor. I and my brothers from the military committee are proud of this. However, I must emphasize the difficulties which await us since nothing exists in our country or rather everything, including the most fundamental values, has been destroyed. Yes, systematically destroyed because of one man's whim.

This means that everything has to be created: schools, hospitals, an infrastructure and agriculture. Cadres has to be trained. We are embarking on this task with faith and with our Moroccan brothers' aid. There is already in our country a Moroccan community consisting of cadres in all spheres who help us sincerely and selflessly to build up the country. I would like to pay tribute to it here on behalf of the supreme military committee and all the grateful people of Equatorial Guinea for results so far achieved; I will simply tell you that we are seeking to build a democratic and free society. We will achieve our objective.

LE MATIN: Mr President, what do you expect from cooperation with Morocco?

President NGUEMA: It is clear that even though it is rated as a developing country, Morocco has managed, as a result of His Majesty King Hassan II's enlightened policy, to achieve an economic and social level which will determine its future. I have seen for myself Morocco's admirable achievements. And this is why we hope that Morocco will give us the benefit of its experience, its cadres and its know-how in the technological and agricultural spheres. Our hopes are consistent with the wishes of the OAU which has called for close and sound inter-African cooperation. Therefore, we expect that the Moroccan people will help and assist us to insure that their brothers, the people of Equatorial Guinea, achieve a living standard and cultural level similar to their own and emerge from the poverty that is gnawing at them. Do you now see what great importance we attach to the agreements which we have signed with Morocco?

LE MATIN: What are your views on the situation existing in the Northwest region of Africa?

President Nguema: First, I owe you an explanation. By recognizing the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, the sinister dictator Macie practically bought Algeria's and others' silence with respect to his crimes. It was a case of complicity which violated international morality and conscience.

Free and liberated Equatorial Guinea reaffirms that Morocco has fallen victim to aggression, that its territorial integrity irks some people and that its resources are coveted.

Having said this, we are committed to OAU principles which lay down that in the event of conflict between members of the organization it is necessary to seek by peaceful means any solution likely to restore peace and concord.

As I have already said, conflicts thus brought about by foreign powers are merely a result of planned and deliberate interference in Africa's internal affairs.

However, I do not doubt that the Moroccan people will emerge victorious from their struggle for integrity.

CSO: 4400

ERITREAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS CALLED SATISFACTORY

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 18 May 80 pp 1, 5

[Text]

ADDIS ABABA (ENA) — The visiting eight-member high-level government team led by Comrade Lt. Colonel Addis Tedla, member of the Standing Committee of the Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) and Deputy Chairman of the National Revolutionary Development Campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council (NRDC-CPSC), is continuing its inspection tour of development activities in Eritrea region.

Briefings were given to the high-level team on Friday on development activities in various sectors of the economy in Eritrea, particularly in agriculture, industry, social services and rehabilitation. During the briefings at the regional administrative office, experts in various fields spoke in detail about the implementation of the National Revolutionary Development Campaign in Eritrea region with the help of charts and other illustrations as well as the problems encountered.

In an introductory statement, Comrade Col. Fikru Wolde-Tensae, Chief Administrator of Eritrea, gave a brief

sketch of the geographical set up and pointed out that Eritrea has an area spreading over 117,000 square kilometres and a population of 1.8 million comprising Affar, Saho, Tigrigna, Tigre, Bilen, Kejja, Kunama and Baria--Woiminara nationalities.

Rate of Production

Comrade Col. Fikru noted that in the light of the objective reality, the rate of production in Eritrea was very satisfactory and that notable progress has been made in the economic sphere particularly after the resounding victory scored over secessionist elements. The liberation of the broad masses of Eritrea region from the oppression imposed on them by the secessionist elements through the dedicated and determined struggle of the Revolutionary Army, said the chief administrator, has contributed substantially to the realisation of the goals of the National Development Campaign.

Comrade Col. Fikru pointed out that although the launching of the development campaign in Eritrea region started late, satisfactory results have been attained due to the diligence of workers and genuine comrades.

Experts in different sectors later gave extensive reports in turn on means of production, rates of production, quality of goods produced and related aspects. They then answered a number of questions put to them by the visiting high-level team.

After the briefings, Comrade Lt. Col. Addis said that the objective of the team's visit is to see the problems experienced within the different economic sectors from a close range and make a joint effort to find solutions for them.

He observed that secessionist elements had wrought immense damage on the economy of the region. Following the victory scored over the secessionists by the Revolutionary Liberation Army and the establishment of the National Revolutionary Development Campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council, satisfactory results have been registered, he said.

The WSDC-CPSC Vice-Chairman referred to the scarcity of electric and transport facilities in Eritrea and said that the objective of the revolutionary government is not only to liberate the broad masses from the secessionists but also to strengthen the socio-economic base of the region.

Earlier on Friday, the high-level government team visited the Ethio-Fabrics and the Dublak Shoe Factory in Asmara and heard reports about the work of these factories from the heads of the establishments.

CSO: 4420

MODERN TECHNOLOGY TO BE APPLIED TO GOLD EXPLOITATION

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 14 May 80 p 3

[Text] Addis Ababa (EH)--Exploration work is still going on at the Adola mines to find out the reserve potential in the area and the use of modern technology in Gold exploitation, it was disclosed here recently.

Comrade Tebebe Tafesse, Acting Head of the Mines Development Department within the Ministry of Mines, Energy and Water Resources, revealed that the exploration scheme was launched at the beginning of 1979. He said the three-year project, which was launched with Soviet credit totalling around 13 million Birr is expected to be completed in 1981.

According to Comrade Tebebe over 30 experts from the Soviet Union as well as Ethiopians are engaged in the work of the project. The scheme is known as the Adola Gold Explorations Project, the prospecting activity is being handled by the Adola Gold Development Enterprise, which is a state-owned body.

Comrade Tebebe pointed out that a study enabling the introduction of mechanized exploitation in three areas namely, Keletcha, Bore and Awatta, is expected to be finalized by the end of this month. He cited that if proven useful, the mechanization system will be introduced by the middle of 1981.

The Adola Gold Development enterprise embraces the exploration and exploitation of this precious mineral. The exploitation is mainly done by unskilled workers but mechanization is also used. Mechanization is systematically employed in two areas known as Bore and Shanka.

The Adola Gold Development Enterprise presently employs 420 permanent workers, it was learnt.

In the Wollega region, there is the Yubdo Platinum Pilot Project Plant, where exploitation work is progressing at an experimental stage. Normal exploitation is expected to start by 1973 EC. The exploitation process will be a semi-mechanized one, Comrade Tebebe concluded.

CSO: 4420

RESEARCH STUDY ON CROP YIELD UNDER WAY

Addis Abbaba THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 15 May 80 pp 1, 3

[Text] Addis Ababa (EH)--Research on potato, sorghum, maize and wheat yield improvement, on multiple cropping (raising three, four or even five crops a year on the same ground instead of the age-old pattern of just one or two) and short-season crop varieties that allow harvesting and more plantings in a year is in full swing in the agricultural experiment station of the Addis Ababa University. This was disclosed by Comrade Dr. Shibru Tedla, research and publications officer of the university in an interview with THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD here yesterday.

Comrade Dr. Shibru added that the research thus far made on potato, sorghum, wheat and maize has produced good results which generate optimism. Speaking about the sorghum improvement project, he said, the object of the project is a comprehensive one dealing with problems associated with the crop at national level. The major areas of concern in this projects, according to Comrade Dr. Shibru, are collecting, classifying, and screening indigenous sorghums to use them as breeding materials. He went on to say that the same project is used for screening and field testing improved sorghums in various ecological zones in Ethiopia, studying crop agronomy and determining optimum inputs needed to provide maximum gain to the Ethiopian peasants.

It is also learnt that the project embraces such tasks as conducting demonstration tests in peasants' fields, breeding high-yield varieties and hybrids with resistance to major pests and diseases in the different ecological zones of the country. "The accomplishments of the project have been mainly in the development of improved varieties, recommending optimum packages of production including seeds, fertilizers. The results of the nation-wide sorghum tests coordinated and organised by the project are published annually by the Institute of Agricultural Research in the proceedings of the National Crop Improvement Committee meetings," Comrade Dr. Shibra pointed out.

The endeavour on maize, wheat and potato improvement is also in full gear, Comrade Dr. Shibru further indicated. The hybridization scheme for better

yield and disease resistance strain of wheat is undertaken at the Debre Zeit Agricultural Experiment Station which is responsible for co-ordinating the yield tests of wheat in the nation. In addition to the aforementioned crops, research on other crops is also conducted, Dr. Shibru noted.

The multiple cropping's most innovatory techniques involve choosing of the right crop, work out their sequence or rotation, and also interplant--that is starting a second crop in a field before the preceding one comes of. According to researchers, most crops grow slowly for the first few weeks, then slowing down again as maturity approaches. The method in inter-planting is to overlap the late growth of the first crop with the early slow growth of the second. Efforts to get short-season crops are also in full gear, it was also learnt.

CSO: 4420

UMBRELLA, BATTERY FACTORY PRODUCTION NOTED

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 16 May 80 p 6

[Text]

ADDIS ABABA (EH) — The battery and umbrella factories of the United Abilities Plant under the Metal Works Corporation have shown remarkable progress in their production and sales activities during the current fiscal year.

According to Comrade Seyoum Wolde-Ab, Acting Manager of the plant, with the reinforcement of its labour force and the increase in its shift systems, within the last ten months, the Battery Factory has produced 11,581,000 batteries that constitute to 79 per cent of its production target for the current fiscal year. This, Comrade Seyoum said, is twice more than the factory's output during the first ten months of the 1971 E.C. fiscal year. The total output the factory is expected to come out with by the end of the current fiscal year is 14,668,000 batteries. Comrade Seyoum expressed confidence that the factory will hit its allocated target by the end of the year under discussion.

As regards the sales activities of the Battery Factory, the manager revealed that excluding transaction tax, a sales return of Birr 4.6 million has been registered from the sale of the said number of batteries produced during the foregone ten months. The factory's sales target for the current fiscal year is Birr 5,875,000.

Likewise, Comrade Seyoum pointed out, the Umbrella Factory of the plant has accomplished 83 per cent of its production target for this year by producing 489,534 umbrellas within the last ten months. The factory's current year sales target being Birr 3,386,000, it has registered an actual sales return of Birr 2,945,000 during the last ten months, the acting manager revealed. This return, according to Comrade Seyoum, is 5 per cent more than the factory's ten months internal sales target.

Enthusiastic Participation

Cognisant of the highly increasing demand for its products, particularly batteries, the plant has been and still is exerting maximum effort to partially alleviate the prevailing shortage of the items and to meet the demand of the consuming public. To this effect, the factory has increased its work force and its shifts from 96-176

and from one to two respectively. In this connection, Comrade Seyoum commended the full and enthusiastic participation and the initiatives of the labour force and the management to boost production.

Asked to comment on the participation of the workers in production activities, Comrade Mekonnen Gebetu, chairman of the worker's union said that the lively participation of the workers, and their dedication to uplift the nation's economy from age-old backwardness is very encouraging and praise worthy. The contribution of the workers' union and that of the plant's discussion forum to ensure the consensus involvement of the work force is also of paramount significance, he stressed.

The present total number of the managerial staff and the labour force of the said 2 factories, is 350 of which 88 per cent are physically disabled. The Umbrella Factory produces umbrellas of different qualities and styles for ladies and gentlemen. Ceremonial ones usually meant for churches are also produced. Major products of the Battery Factory are R 20 size batteries.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

COFFEE PLANTING--Addis Ababa--A total of 185,192 coffee seedlings have been planted in Dalie and Yirga Cheffie districts of Sidamo region last month. The seedlings which are free from diseases were obtained by peasants from the coffee improvement project, according to information released by the Ministry of Coffee and Tea Development. Next July, disease resistant coffee will be widely planted in Kaffa, Illubabor, Wollega and Sidamo regions. It is expected that one million coffee seedlings in all would be planted. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 15 May 80 p 6]

EARTHEN DAM CONSTRUCTION--Dessie (ENA)--Construction work of a 300,000 cubic water capacity earthen dam, the second of its kind in Ethiopia, is in progress in Kutaber district near here for multi-purpose agricultural schemes. Peasants of eight kebeles in Kutaber district were involved in the construction of the earthen dam when it was inspected last week by Comrade Lt. Col. Nadew Zecharias, Chief Administrator of Wollo region. The dam is to be used for irrigation, cattle breeding and fish raising for the benefit of the peasants in the district. These and other benefits from the earthen dam, were explained to the Chief Administrator of Wollo region during his inspection tour of the project by the area representative and experts of the Ministry of Agriculture. Comrade Lt. Col. Nadew, who also visited a nearby cattle breeding centre, spoke encouragingly to all those involved in the project and said peasants from other districts and provinces in Wollo region should be invited to the earthen dam and see for themselves the benefits to be accrued from such a project. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 13 May 80 p 5]

MAPPING ACTIVITIES--Addis Ababa (ENA)--The Ethiopian Mapping Institute is now fully in charge of all the work carried out in this field. Mapping in Ethiopia for the last nine years used to be jointly undertaken by the Ethiopian Mapping Institute and a British counterpart, the British Overseas Project. Mapping equipment, documents, Landrovers belonging to the British project officially handed over Monday to the Ethiopian Mapping Institute by Mr. John Price, the Project's General Manager. Department heads of the National Revolutionary Development Campaign and Central Planning Supreme

Council were present during the handing over ceremony. The Ethiopian Mapping Institute conducts researches on natural resources. The Institute has prepared map covering 128 square kilometres in nine years. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 14 May 80 p 3]

DONATIONS FOR ERITREAN DEVELOPMENT--Asmara (ENA)--A total of 40,000 Birr in cheque was handed over yesterday to Comrade Col. Kikru Wolde-Tensae, the Chief Administrator of Eritrea region, to help implement three major projects. The projects are the rehabilitation of compatriots whose livelihood has been disrupted by the sinister activities of secessionist bandits, the repair of the Mekane Hiwot Hospital, and the realisation of the goals of the third phase of the nation-wide literacy campaign. The amount was donated by workers of the region who have dedicated their energies to the cause of the revolution. It was learnt that the workers have previously made similar donations and worked overtime free of charge to step up production. Comrade Gezzai Sebhatu, Vice-Chairman of the All Ethiopia Trade Union (AETU) in the region, who handed over the cheque to the chief administrator declared that the workers are determined to ensure that COPWE achieves its mission and that production is greatly increased. Of the 40,000 Birr, 15,000 Birr will go for rehabilitation, 12,500 Birr for literacy, and 12,500 Birr for the repair of the Mekane Hiwot Hospital. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 14 May 80 p 32

PROFITEERING MERCHANTS--Assela (ENA)--Two profiteering merchants were fined a total of 1,600 Birr by the Chilalo Provincial Revolutionary Operations Co-ordinating Committee for smuggling 78 quintals of oil seeds from Borujewie kebele, in Itossa district of Chilalo province, Arssi region into Dera town. The merchants, Ketema Daba and Mohammed Muzzein, were charged of violating the directive given them by the government to buy their alloted quota of oil seeds from the Agricultural Marketing Corporation. The merchants were caught red-handed by revolutionary defence squad members while trying to smuggle the oil seeds after purchasing them from peasants under the cover of darkness. Ketema Daba was fined 1,000 Birr while Mohammed Muzzein received a fine of 600 Birr, the provincial administrative office disclosed. The 78 quintals of oil seeds were confiscated. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 14 May 80 p 5]

GDR SPORTS DONATIONS--Addis Ababa (ENA)--The Solidarity Committee of the German Democratic Republic, GDR, yesterday donated a solidarity consignment of sports out-fits estimated at more than 300,000 Birr. The solidarity consignment which is to be distributed through the Ethiopian Peace and Solidarity Committee (EPSC) for use by mass organizations in the city and the regions, particularly the people of Wollo region, the Tatek militia base and the Heroes Centre in Debre Zeit was handed over by Comrade Gunther Mauersberger, GDR Ambassador to Ethiopia, to Comrade Lt. Tibebu Shiferraw, Secretary General of the EPSC. [Excerpt] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 16 May 80 p 32

GDR WELFARE ORGANIZATION DONATIONS--Addis Ababa (ENA)--Agricultural implements, clothings and tents worth 367,754 Birr were donated by "Caritas Berlin", a welfare organization of the Catholic Church in the German Democratic Republic in aid of rehabilitation efforts of persons affected by man-made and natural calamities in Ethiopia. The donation was handed over to Comrade Shimelis Adugna, Commissioner for Relief and Rehabilitation, by Abba Estifanos Tedla, General Manager of the Ethiopian Catholic Church Secretariat. Abba Estifanos stated that the Ethiopian Catholic Church has been making similar donations towards the implementation of rehabilitation programmes in the country and affirmed the continued assistance of his organization for smiliar purposes in the future. Comrade Shimelis on his part acknowledged the various humanitarian assistance made by the Catholic Church towards the rehabilitation of the people affected by man-made and natural calamities and expressed gratitude for the present donation. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 17 May 80 p 8]

CSO: 4420

'GABONIZATION' DISCUSSED AT MAY DAY CELEBRATION

Purchase Power Still Low

Libreville L'UNION in French 2 May 80 pp 1, 4

[Article by Jean-Paul Kowet: "The Minister of Labor Announces the Establishment of a New Wage Schedule"]

[Excerpts] The first of May, the workers' holiday, was celebrated in Gabon as in the entire world.

A simple ceremony was attended by Ministers Jean-Francois Ntoutoume, Leon Auge, and Antoinette Oliveira, a few heads of diplomatic missions accredited to Libreville, and a handful of delegates representing the rank and file of workers.

The event, it should be mentioned, did not do justice to the historic significance of the first of May.

Two speeches were delivered on that occasion by Martin Allini, president of COSYGA [Gabonese Trade Union Confederation], and Jules Bourdes-Ogouliguende, minister of state for labor.

The representative of the workers' groups, whose essential goal is the protection of their members' collective interests, was bitter about the increase in inflation, especially in the prices of some foodstuffs, even before the wage adjustment went into effect.

For Martin Allini what is involved for the time being is to seek those means that might maintain the workers' purchasing power. Thus, COSYGA plans to sensitize and organize the rural workers in order to create an instrument for the marketing of food products that can be grown in Gabon. This will make it possible for Gabon to achieve self-sufficiency whose initial result will be the reduction of agricultural imports and also a rapid drop in prices.

The minister of state for labor, broaching the problem of job priorities favoring Gabonese citizens, indicated that the provisions [of the amended

Labor Code of 1962] oblige firms to hire Gabonese citizens slated to take over from expatriate cadres. But practice has often evidenced the opposite given that foreign executives have found it difficult to train Gabonese who would later be called upon to replace them.

In the face of this attitude the minister of state issued a new formal appeal that the heads of firms actively participate in the Gabonization of jobs. But, he hastened to add, "to Gabonize does not only mean to appoint a Gabonese to a position and finally to create a void around him. It is also necessary that he be involved in the elaboration of decisions and in all the activities that go with the title conferred on him."

Another aspect of the problem, which has become commonplace, is that raised by the presence in companies operating in Gabon of large-scale imported manpower occupying minor positions that could be held by Gabonese citizens.

Workers' Interest Minimal

Libreville L'UNION in French 2 May 80 p 1

[Article by Makaya: "As Far As I Am Concerned"]

[Text] The first of May in Gabon resembles more and more a large masquerade. Already last year it was a washout following the cancellation of the big meeting planned by the trade union federation, COSYGA. On that day everyone had fun.

This year again there is parody. For a city of more than 150,000 inhabitants there were fewer than 500 workers at the Labor Exchange yesterday morning. At 0900 hours nobody was there yet, not even a cat for the sake of form. There were four bluffers sitting on the official rostrum. In short, a real hole in the water.

I am trying to understand the reason for this lack of interest for an event which, elsewhere, involves thousands of workers. I know that COSYGA is doing the impossible to prove that it is operating effectively. It talks of better working conditions for the country's workers.

Well then, perhaps it is necessary to seek elsewhere the explanation for these successive setbacks.

This is as far as we are concerned.

2662
CSO: 4400

WORLD IMPACT OF U.S. HOSTAGE SITUATION DISCUSSED

Libreville L'UNION in French 26-27 Apr 80 p 5

[Article by Mengue-ba-Nna: "The Real Problem"]

[Text] The Iranian-American problem could bring on the third world war, the apocalypse. It is possible. But the future "atom-bombed" just the same have the right to know, before dying, the reasons that would have destroyed our planet. We are going to try to answer them.

Several years ago an old Chinese man named Mao Zedong announced without mincing words that the United States was only "a paper tiger." In all the Western capitals the leaders trembled before the marching forth of young persons with long hair who took up this new slogan. America itself shuddered.

In primitive societies one does not touch, one does not speak disrespectfully of the house that shelters the remains of one's forefathers, which the Jews would call the holy of holies.

Mao thus "blasphemed" the tabernacle of capitalism. The Chinese leader shook the structure, but firm establishment and between the weaknesses (as published) one had anticipated steel jaws that were supposed to pulverize rebellions and revolutions.

Several years later, another old man, who is an Iranian, decides not to speak but to show that America actually can be considered a "paper tiger." He wants to prove it to the world. For 4 months he holds hostage 50 American diplomats. A year ago one could not touch the hair of an American abroad. Khomeyni wants to prove that one can hold as long as he wants to 50 Americans and that the temple of capitalism can be brought to negotiate with a Third World nation to recover its own. So be it. "Third World, average powers, let us no longer fear America, this "paper tiger," declares Khomeyni. Vile statement!

This is the problem. America, the superpower, must make everyone afraid everywhere. Khomeyni is preaching heresy. By losing the fear that it inspires, a superpower becomes a giant with feet of clay.

Carter reacts, but he is mistaken. One has the impression that he is "manipulated" by Khomeyni or at least that he is playing the role that the Iranian leader wished to assign him. He stammers. His most steadfast allies hesitate.

Then comes the appearance of quick movement. Washington reminds its allies that with itself disgraced, the entire West will no longer be respected.

But in the midst of all this confusion, could Mr Carter remember the words of one of his predecessors, John Kennedy? "We are not afraid to negotiate, but we will not negotiate in fear."

9545
CSO: 4400

REVIEW OF CUBAN COOPERATION, FUTURE PLANS

Libreville L'UNION in French 30 Apr-1 May 80 p 4

[Article by Obame Emane: "Gabon-Cuba--Toward Economic and Cultural Cooperation"]

[Text] Two important working meetings took place on 25 and 26 April 1980 in the conference room of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Libreville. Participating in them were Cuban experts headed by Enrique Montero Lenzano, Cuban ambassador in Gabon, and Gabonese experts headed by Sylvestre Ratanga, deputy general secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On the Cuban side one noted the presence of Mrs Elina Gonzalez, Rawon Soto Recio, Octavio Martinez Hernandez Blanco, and Luis Goicochea Gil, while on the Gabonese side were the representatives of the ministries of National Education, Higher Education, Commerce, Health, Agriculture, Youth and Sports.

Economic, scientific, and technical cooperation as well as the balance of trade between Cuba and Gabon were on the agenda. In the field of education the Cuban side, after outlining its cultural, scientific, and technical experience, made a kind of survey of its cooperation in the field with some African and Asian countries. According to Enrique Montero Lenzano, Cuba plans to assign scholarships to Gabonese students and to send teachers of Spanish to Gabon.

As relates specifically to scientific research, the Gabonese experts explained to their Cuban opposite numbers the Gabonese philosophy of scientific research and the goals assigned to the various Gabonese research institutes. After that the two sides agreed on the need to exchange literature and experiences between the Cuban Academy of Sciences and the Gabonese research institutes.

As for cooperation in the field of public health a Gabonese delegation which could be expanded to cover other fields such as sports and commerce will visit Cuba in July 1980. "Cuba is prepared to send doctors to Gabon," the head of the Cuban delegation stated.

After finding that trade is insufficient if not nonexistent between the two countries, the experts recommended that the two sides exchange lists of products likely to be marketed by both of them. Initially, Cuba will ship to Gabon through CODEV [Development Company] a list of pharmaceutical products that are available. Then, CODEV and its Cuban partner will study the problems of costs and transportation connected with these exchanges.

According to Enrique Montero Lenzano it is especially by means of agriculture that the Cuban side plans to participate in Gabon's development, namely, through the cultivation of vegetable crops, livestock raising, poultry raising, and the opening of an experimental farm.

On its side, the Gabonese delegation invited the Cubans to participate at the fair of 12 March 1981 devoted more specially to agriculture and agroindustry. Similarly, Gabon will be able to participate in fairs and exhibitions organized in Cuba.

During its stay the Cuban delegation visited the commercial port of Owendo and the Jeanne Ebori Foundation.

The Cuban ambassador qualified these meetings as "very important in the sense that they have laid the bases of economic, cultural, and technical cooperation between Libreville and Havana following the diplomatic relations established at the ambassadors' level." It should be noted that the Gabonese diplomatic mission in Cuba is headed by Yves Ongollo.

7662
CSO: [illegible]

REDUCED SCOPE OF JAPANESE COOPERATION REVIEWED

Libreville L'UNION in French 24 Apr 80 pp 1, 4

[Article by Mathurin Mihindou and Jean Bilinga: "From Fishing to Rice Cultivation"]

[Excerpts] On the occasion of the Japanese Government's delivery of agricultural equipment for the Ndende (Ngounie) rice growing project, on Monday, 21 April, to the Gabonese authorities, we recall the vicissitudes of this cooperation between Gabon and Japan that has undergone well-known ups and downs.

Strongly dependent for its needs in energy materials, Japan opens up its ties of cooperation with those countries that can provide it in the first place with hydrocarbons, and then other raw materials essential to the progress of its large industry.

As a second foundation of its operations, Japan is seeking to install trade networks in countries representing a possible concrete market for its products (automobilies, televisions, electronic equipment, electrical household appliances, etc.).

At a glimpse of this plan it is easy to understand that the Japanese Government has a rather moderate interest in Gabon (narrowness of the consumer market, relative petroleum capacity), while on the African continent Japan more willingly inclines its efforts toward Nigeria, a big producer of hydrocarbons, Kenya for its hinterlands and Liberia for its port facilities.

These two factors explain why Japanese investors and businessmen are not jostling one another to reach the threshold of Gabon, despite appeals launched at the highest level by the Gabonese authorities. Even in the field of sports Tokyo is keeping in /low profile/ (low-water mark level) by allowing only one instructor in judo, and refusing a master of karate and aikido, "to not compete with our South Korean friends," in the elegant wording of the former ambassador to Libreville, SE Shigeru Obavashi.

Japanese cars: Subaru, Mitsubishi "Lancer," Nissan "Datsun," Toyota "Corona", Honda "Accord" have flooded Gabonese towns, replacing European and American vehicles and are generally distributed by French franchisees.

To our knowledge, no Japanese manufacturers has come forward to take control of the distribution of its own machines, which would have avoided a triangular route, thus being an advantage for the consumer in Gabon, despite official Gabonese support for such action.

With the above explained, we have to recognize that Tokyo is trying to present a better image as a sign of this despairingly weak cooperation by starting some pinpoint projects, inexpensive, it is true, in relation to their considerable financial means (the yen is a currency of well-known authority).

The first attempt, in 1975, involved a fishing project that gently overturned for various reasons. The refrigeration equipment that two Japanese experts installed at Omboue and Mayumba never worked normally, because a basic element had been forgotten: maintenance by their Gabonese successors.

In the files of the same project there was a small 10 ton boat (costing 15 million francs CFA) of which no one in Gabon could take charge due to the lack of training, and fishing equipment worth 15 million francs CFA, warehoused eternally in the old embassy (which L'UNION photographed at that time) that no one knew how to use because of a lack of qualified personnel.

In the meantime, some Gabonese apprentices actually went to Japan to take a training course, but one for clerks and not for sailors or fishermen. And since a technocrat is inevitably not a technician, the boat went down to a lovely death in its Libreville port and the equipment slowly rotted on land.

A Japanese group is studying at this time the possibility of buying or converting Gabonese wood. This is a commendable attempt, but the answer to it is already known: first of all the price of Okoume or of other woods cannot compete with those of Indonesian and Philippine wood; in the second place the great distance between Gabon and Japan would make the transporting of this heavy material to the pier extremely expensive; in the third place a /joint venture/ (joint partnership) would be possible if the building industry used wood more than concrete.

As Minister of Agriculture Michel Anchouey pointed out in a meeting with Ambassador Iwao Shinomura, Japanese builders use wood a great deal in construction; therefore they are thoroughly familiar with the technical aspects of this material. For this reason, Japanese companies could join with Gabonese parterns to work together in this area rather than considering exporting crude wood.

During this conversation--which followed the ceremony of transfer of agricultural equipment for the rice growing project in Ndende (Ngounie)--in the salon of the Japanese ambassador to Libreville, on Monday 21 April, the technical goals of the Ndende project were mentioned.

This project, the feasibility study of which was finished in 1978, first came into being through the establishment of a 5 hectare experimental farm under the authority of the Nippon Koei Co Ltd company.

The specific operation started this year with a total of 500 hectares of rice fields irrigated and mechanized, producing under the intersection system a maximum of 2,500 tons of white rice. The cost is estimated at 4.65 billion francs CFA, financed by state loans and with the aid of the African Development Bank. The Japanese Government is participating by providing technical help and equipment and by training administrative staff.

Anticipated production will reach only 730 tons the 3d year, with two annual harvests.

Interest in the project, conclude the experts, is threefold: to create salaried jobs for the rural population of Ndende, to provide the country with food products at a reasonable price, and finally to improve Gabon's trade balance (although Gabon does not really need this, because she is benefitting very much). In any case, this production will make possible a reduction in rice imports which every year reach about 5,000 tons.

We point out in passing that rice growing is not the exclusive domain of our Japanese friends, since whole teams of Chinese farmers also have been working in our country for several years, and they are producing rice, fruits and vegetables in a way that is encouraging for the Gabonese peasants.

9545
CSO: 4400

CCCE N'TOUM IV WATERWORKS LOAN APPROVED

Libreville L'UNION in French 30 Apr-1 May 80 pp 1, 5

[Article by M.M.: "The CCCE Approves a Loan of 1.9 Billion CFA Francs for the N'Toum IV Water Supply Project"]

[Excerpt] An important meeting involving the members of the control council of the CCCE [Central Fund for Economic Cooperation--France] was held in Paris on 23 April 1980.

Among the items included on the agenda was that concerning the two loans which the CCCE has approved for the SEEG [Gabon Power and Water Company] for the partial financing of the N'Toum IV water supply project.

Bernard Chartois, director of the CCCE in Libreville, who received us very recently, noted that these two loans or credits are broken down in the following way: 1.1 billion CFA francs at 6 percent interest for 17 years including a 7-year grace period, and 800 million CFA francs at 12.4 percent interest for 15 years including a 3-year grace period.

Let us recall that the N'Toum IV project with an aggregate cost of 2.904 billion CFA francs plus tax is slated to increase from 42,000 to 69,000 cubic meters the peak capacity of water treated at the N'Toum IV station in order to avoid any halt in supplies and make possible the satisfaction of additional needs in drinking water of the inhabitants of Libreville for several years.

Besides the supply of drinking water the project, it is noted in the CCCE director's office in Libreville, calls for the extension of the water distribution networks. The new investments will be financed to the tune of 900 million CFA francs by the Gabonese Government, 104 million by the SEEG, and 1.5 billion by the CCCE.

2662
CSO: 4400

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY--What intense activity in the ministries! My word, everyone works with all possible zeal as if his future depended on it. One would think one was in a hive where all the worker bees were busy around the queen bee which was laying every second service directives, communiques, get-acquainted projects, and plans without end. Officials undertake pleasant junkets everywhere in the provinces, without forgetting their short visits to their villages of origin (charity begins at home) at government expense. At the same time these tours make for good publicity in the mass media, as they say. But I Makaya who am mischievous believe rather that all of this is sham, an immense farce which will deceive only naive people. It could be said that I am like Saint Thomas: I doubt till I am shown. We are completely drunk with speeches, addresses, comments, promises, as if the earlier officials in the government had not achieved anything. The trouble is that in the new government there are old timers. So much as far as I Makaya am concerned. [By Makaya] [Text] [Libreville L'UNION in French 28 Apr 80 p 1] 2662

CSO: 4400

BRIEFS

'DEFREEZING' OF ASSETS DENIED--The special tribunal today denied a publication by the PIONEER that the assets of 53 AFRC [Armed Forces Revolutionary Council] convicted persons have been defrozen. In an interview with a GBC [Ghana Broadcasting Corporation] correspondent in Accra, the chairman of the tribunal, Mr Justice Abban, said the tribunal has on no occasion written to any financial institution to that effect. He said all that the tribunal did was to recommend to the attorney general's department that the accounts of the wives and children of the convicted persons be defrozen on the advice of the assets recovery and disposal committee. He said as far as he and tribunal are concerned, the accounts of all the 53 convicted persons still remain confiscated. Mr Justice Abban said since no adverse findings have been made against the wives and children of the convicted persons by any committee of inquiry, it is only right that their accounts should be defrozen. He said: In writing to the attorney general the tribunal used the names of the convicted persons, since that was how their wives and children were identified, not by their proper names. He also denied that the tribunal had circulated lists of names secretly to the bank. [Text] [AB281520 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 28 May 80]

NORTHERN AGRICULTURE FUEL SHORTAGE--The upper regional capital, Bolgatanga, has been hit by a fuel shortage. The shortage is believed to have affected other towns like Navrongo and Bawku, slowing down commercial activities considerably. According to our correspondent, there are fears that if the situation is not normalized, farming activities in the region will virtually come to a halt. At the moment, many tractors have been parked for lack of fuel. Our correspondent says this is the third consecutive year that the region has experienced fuel shortage during the farming season. He quotes a manager of a filling station as saying that tanker owners are reluctant to allow their vehicles to do long distances because of lack of spare parts and low freight charges. [Text] [AB240854 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 24 May 80]

CSO: 4420

FNAMAJCI ACTIVITIES, POLITICAL ROLE DISCUSSED

Youth Awareness Campaign

Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 7 May 80 p 12

[Interview with Mr Amoa Urbain, President of FNAMAJCI, by Bernard Ahua: "FNAMAJCI: Youth Awareness Campaign. Amoa Urbain: '... To Educate the Youth'"; date and place of interview not given]

> [Text] Tomorrow, Thursday, in the afternoon, at the headquarters of FNAMAJCI [National Federation of Ivorian Youth Movements and Associations] a report will be presented on the national awareness weekend which took place on 26-27 April last. On this occasion, we thought it would be interesting to interview the president of FNAMAJCI, Mr Amoa Urbain. This interview supplements the article by Michel Kaoume published in our 16 April 1980 issue.
>
> In addition to this interview, Yao Noel, which had gone to Bondoukou for this awareness weekend, gives a detailed report on what was said there.

[Question] The FNAMAJCI was created in 1961. However, today, in 1980, it does not seem to be known inland. In your opinion, why is it so?

[Answer] I think that, in fact, the Federation is known through the youth movements; when one mentions movements such as the JEC (Catholic Student Youth) or the Tubman Club, for instance, one is also speaking of the Federation, since all these movements report to it. If our Federation is not known as such, it is because those who headed it before us saw it somehow as a mere association.

[Question] What do you plan to do to remedy this anomaly?

[Answer] Since I have been elected, we have been working with the grass-roots leadership. As a result, all the leaders of the various movements affiliated to the Federation have now become very much available. To

mention an example, I will tell you that our board meetings are no longer invalidated for lack of a quorum, as was frequently the case in the past.

[Question] You must now get the general public interested...

[Answer] Our second step will consist in reaching the rural youth, the young farmers; the Federation is also the business of the rural youth, the young farmers, the young civil servants and, as you may well have guessed, the students. We must enable all these young people who live inland to get to know the Federation better. This is why, in November 1979, we organized a tour which took us to Bouake, Daloa and Man, three towns where the Federation already had departmental chapters. This tour has enabled us to realize how much work must be done in these regions. In addition, we have decided to concentrate on the towns which do not yet have a departmental chapter.

[Question] And it is of course in this perspective that we should consider the awareness weekend which you organized on 26-27 April last.

[Answer] Precisely; on this occasion, members of the committee and of the board of directors--comprised of leaders of youth movements affiliated to the Federation--visited several towns in our country: Abengourou, Bondoukou, Bouake, Daloa, Gagnoa, Man, Odienne, Korhogo, Sassandra and Dabou. We wanted the Federation to be discussed throughout the country on the same day and at the same time.

To us, the goal of this awareness weekend was to present the Federation and its affiliated movements, and to say which movements were affiliated to the Federation and which were not. Moreover, we wanted to see, on the spot, what associations existed in the country, since we intend to prepare a flowchart for youth, to be submitted to our overseeing ministry, but we do not want to take such an initiative without knowing exactly whom to contact among the young people. Young people should not be given the impression that such a decision has been taken without consulting them.

[Question] Once the youth knows all there is to know about your Federation, what proposals do you intend to make them? In other words, what action do you plan to take?

[Answer] Mainly, to educate the youth.

[Question] Let us come back to this national awareness weekend... As part of this campaign, you went to Odienne in person. Exactly what did you do there?

[Answer] Following our schedule, on Saturday we met the leaders of the various associations existing in the area, as well as the youth inspector representing the ministry in Odienne. We then became aware that the young people did not know at all what the role of the inspector was; they thought

he was only a specialist of athletism. They were surprised to learn that the inspector was, so to say, responsible for youth associations at government level. Therefore, during this working session, we had to define what kind of relations should exist between the associations and the Youth Ministry inspector. In addition, we explained the goals of the Federation to all these young people; they were not fully aware of them.

[Question] I understand that the next day, Sunday, you organized a meeting?

[Answer] Yes, and in our opinion this meeting should have gathered as many young people as possible to inform them of the decisions arrived at the day before. Only about a hundred attended; however, when you consider that many of them did not even know that the Federation existed, this is quite encouraging.

[Question] Could you briefly define the relationship existing between the Federation and the Ministry of Youth, Public Education and Sports?

[Answer] This ministry is a technical ministry to which we submit suggestions; we are the ones who work with the various associations in the country. We then have discussions with the ministry, and the ministry gives us advice as to the orientation of our work.

[Question] Are you satisfied with your cooperation with the ministry?

[Answer] It is like in a family, there are always points on which we disagree; but we are happy with our cooperation because the ministry has always been very willing to listen to our problems.

[Question] Do you not believe, however, that the fact that young people are not aware of the role played by the ministry with regard to the youth results from a failure to inform them on the part of the ministry? I am thinking more particularly of the inspector we were just talking about. If the young do not know who he is, it may be due to a lack of dynamism on his part...

[Answer] I think we should not place the problem in this perspective. When you say Ministry of Youth, Public Education and Sports, youth comes first, even if sports are practiced by the youth. Unfortunately, to many people, this ministry is primarily in charge of sports, although the minister himself recently stated: "My ministry is above all a ministry for youth." There may be a lack of information, but I do not know that people at the Ministry of Cultural Affairs go around telling everybody that their job is cultural affairs. I do not see why the Ministry of Youth should do that.

[Question] I have been asking all these questions because I know that you receive total subsidies amounting to seven million per year; however, you have no service car and, above all, you have no proper premises to receive the youth.

[Answer] This is true, we have no adequate premises; but I can assure you that this problem--and it is a real problem--will be solved soon.

FNAMAJCI Acting Committee in Bondoukou

Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 7 May 80 p 12

[Article by Yao Noel: "Since 27 April: An Acting Committee for Bondoukou"]

[Text] On Saturday 26 April, a FNAMAJCI delegation headed by FNAMAJCI vice-president, Mr Anthony Kodjo, arrived in Bondoukou where it stayed until 29 April.

The main objective of this trip: to take a census of all youth movements and associations in the Bondoukou district, to increase the local youth's awareness, and to prepare the coming training course for rural youth which is to take place this year in Bondoukou, on 15-31 August.

This training course will gather some 50 rural youths able to express themselves in French (preferably animators of youth groups). They were to be recruited in the East (Abengourou, Bondoukou, Bouna). This is why, upon its arrival, the FNMAJCI delegation made arrangements to meet local youth leaders.

As a result, the delegation was received the same day, at 1845 hours, by Mr N'Guessan Yobouet, sub-prefect of Bondoukou, in the presence of Mr Kouakou Allah Toussaint, departmental inspector for youth and sports.

Defining the object of his visit to the number two leader of Bondoukou, Mr Anthony Kodjo stated that his visit was taking place following the recommendations of the last congress of the Federation, i.e. (as mentioned above) to take a census of all youth movements and associations in the country and, particularly for the Bondoukou area, to prepare the coming rural youth work camp which is to take place in that town.

According to the central Bondoukou sub-prefect, who spoke after Mr Anthony, it is a good thing to meet with all the youth and to define with it the orientations of the action to be undertaken.

"When you come here and tell these young people what they ought to do, it is a good thing because Mr Allah, although he is youth inspector, certainly cannot, all by himself, reach all of the young people," Mr N'Guessan Yobouet said.

An Ascending Youth

Concerning the coming rural youth work camp, the sub-prefect said he was delighted with the project because, he said, "such considerations will give us an ascending youth worthy of interest."

At 1915 hours, it was the turn of Bondoukou's number one official, Prefect Sadjo Coulibaly, to receive the FNAMAJCI delegation.

At this meeting with the FNAMAJCI delegation, which was only a preliminary to the working session which took place Monday morning in his cabinet, Prefect Sadjo Coulibaly expressed his concern with the problem of our youth.

He asked the Federation vice-president very relevant questions concerning the part which this organization allows the rural youth to take in its activities; this question is all the more important as, according to Bondoukou's prefect, "the rural youth is a majority."

Mr Sadjo submitted proposals to the Federation members, most of which recommended that FNAMAJCI show more interest in the youth of our villages: "The movements," Mr Sadjo concluded, "should not be limited to Abidjan. You must remember our rural youth and help us prevent its exodus to the capital." Mr Coulibaly Moussa, general secretary of the prefecture, was present at this meeting.

Sunday 27 April at 1030 hours, at the town's cultural center, the Federation delegation met again with Bondoukou's youth, this time for a meeting which actually did not attract as many people as had been expected.

At the close of this marathon meeting which lasted nearly four hours, an acting committee of the Federation was set up. Conforming to its statutes, the Federation does not create a department chapter unless there are at least three affiliated associations or movements in the applicant district. This condition was fulfilled in the case of Bondoukou which has chapters of the AEFMCI [expansion unknown], of the JEC [Catholic Student Youth], and of the CVAV [expansion unknown].

Therefore, the head of the delegation, Federation's vice-president Anthony Kodjo, could ask the Bondoukou youth: "Do you feel a need for the creation of a departmental chapter in Bondoukou?"

To this question, young Bakary Gbane, president of the Bondoukou Moslem Student Youth (JEMB), answered: "We rejoice and request the creation of this chapter, for here, in Bondoukou, there are many movements but unfortunately we do not all know one another. Such a chapter will be helpful in keeping us better informed of the Federation's activities."

A Matter of Dynamism

The acting committee will be comprised of the leaders of the three Bondoukou movements affiliated to the Federation. After a working session to which Mr Allah will take part, on Thursday 8 May (i.e. tomorrow), members of the other associations will be integrated to the committee to constitute the final Bondoukou committee.

"It is one thing to install a committee," Mr Anthony Kodjo said, "it is another thing to ensure its survival. The Bondoukou acting committee will survive only if the local youth abide by its decisions, respect them and carry them out. All of you, young people of Bondoukou, are responsible for this provisional chapter. If it distinguishes itself by its dynamism, then we shall come and install it officially. From now on," Mr Kodjo concluded, "you are solidary with the other departmental and Federation chapters."

Monday 28 April: more visits, more working sessions with the town's officials; on the agenda: preparation of the rural youth training course jointly with the leaders. Following Mr Anthony Kodjo's presentation of the project, Bondoukou's officials voiced in turn their concern as to the follow-up after the course is over.

Mr Dosso Mamadou, regional delegate of the National Office for Rural Promotion, expresses some reservations: "Your project is original, but are you sure that these young people will stay put?"

"Once the course of instruction is over, will young people accept to work as 'volunteers'?" Mr Dosso also asked, and he went on: "The intention is commendable, that is true, but realities in the field are quite different."

Finally, Mr Dosso, who certainly is a lot more aware of the problems of rural youth, made suggestions: "Considering our personal experience, we believe that the Federation ought to orient its activities toward local actions (construction of dispensaries, homes or youth centers)."

The Bondoukou prefect, who subsequently received the delegation, said the same thing: "If you want to keep young people at home, you will have to organize concrete activities."

National School, University Youth Congress

Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 7 May 80 p 13

[Article by R. Diodan: "National School and University Youth Congress: A Strict Organization Is Imperative"]

[Text] The National School and University Youth Congress ended Saturday with a banquet and ball held at the Ivoire Hotel. Many complacently called this congress a success, probably because of the large turnout at the last event, namely the ball.

However, the events which took place during this congress suggest the following comments.

First, the organization: a disorderly parade (a significant disorder, wasn't it?) made up of elementary and high school students only. It seems

that university students could not come to an agreement on how to hold the "Week," and thus decided to boycott it. As a consequence, the organizers had to make do with elementary and high school students, and immediately baptized "School and University Youth Congress" what initially had been planned as the Third University Students' Week. Rumors? Possibly. Nevertheless, university students should have been actors in the parade, not spectators as they were. Many came only out of curiosity when they saw a crowd in front of the vice-chancellorship.

"What is going on?" students asked us.

Why had they not been informed? Such an event should be of interest to all students. The time, it seems, had been ill-chosen. They are now preparing for their final examinations. In the future, this aspect of the question should not be neglected. The vice-chancellor hinted so much in his speech marking the opening of the events. "This is organized by the MEECI [Movement of Students and Pupils of the Ivory Coast]; then I am not interested," a university student told us. The MEECI should make its self-criticism and find out why it does not have the sympathy of all the students it is supposed to bring closer together.

Students' Attitude

The theme chosen for this congress is very lofty: "Youth and National Awareness." Nevertheless, those who took part in the various events appear to have lost sight of the theme. Disorderly, lacking discipline, they offered the very picture of a youth without any awareness. The speech by Minister Ekra, on which we report below, should have been an occasion for them to reflect more deeply on their role. "The Political Role of Youth in Developing Countries." Both the theme and the speaker provided a favorable, a unique opportunity for a heated argument, an intense and enriching debate such as will take place among mature and reasonable people.

On the contrary, most of the questions asked dealt with everything but the theme of the debate. Accusatory questions which the speaker could refute easily: "There is no freedom of the press; why?" "If you are speaking here tonight, is it not because the Seventh Congress is nearing and a shake-up is impending?"... In short, this speech gave the students an occasion to let off steam, in a disorderly manner.

True, there were some relevant questions, such as: "Youth is not disciplined, what example does it get from the adults?", the "old," "One does not listen enough to what the youth has to say," etc... But all this, drowned in an ocean of useless words, leaves an impression of immaturity, of rowdy and blundering boys.

Minister Ekra's Speech

Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 7 May 80 p 13

[Report by R Diodan: "The Political Role of Youth in Developing Countries: 'To Be Competent, Available, Trustful,' Mr Mathieu Ekra Tells the Students."]

[Text] "If they are to take an active and efficient part in the country's political life, young people must first of all be sufficiently aware of their place within the nation. They must work side by side with their elders whose experience guarantees the security and stability which are indispensable to maintain confidence between all concerned; the youth is the live force, the motor of national development. This privileged position entails three major obligations: to be competent, available; trustful," Mr Mathieu Ekra, state minister in charge of the reform of state-owned companies, stated Friday in a speech to students on the /political role of youth in developing countries/ [in italics]. This speech was delivered on the occasion of the National School and University Youth Congress, before a large audience comprised mainly of elementary and secondary school students, university students, and also civilians. Several personalities of the world of education were present, among whom Messrs Laurent Dona Fologo, minister of Youth, Public Education and Sports, who presided over the congress which ended Saturday; Bra Kanon, minister of Agriculture, Yao N'Guessan Thomas, director of Higher Education, Vally Charles Diarrassouba, vice-chancellor of the university.

Mr Mathieu Ekra began his speech by noting the lack of interest of adults and young people in politics. As for the adults, he said, "this is due to the nature of this activity which is more a constraint than a sinecure." As for young people, their lack of interest in politics is due to the traditional status of youth who does not take part in the political process before it has been initiated, as well as to the "misconception of the political fact which colonizers have done everything to instil into colonized nations." This idea, according to Mr Ekra, has perpetuated itself until now thanks to certain members of the teaching profession who persist in "propagating their personal political ideas which do not find favor with the country's political leaders."

Also, basic civics teaching is still dependent on colonial history, taught at school, and which has retained mainly the detestable aspects of colonization which, "although outdated, is continuously examined from all sides and used as a subject for teaching by professors who are motivated against the present regimes." Hence, the perplexity of the youth. And the examples of instability, internal quarrels, etc., which breed death, poverty and resentment only aggravate the situation: "They give politics a lackluster image."

A Youth Lacking Discipline

Still, these are but false images. "Youth and politics have another face to show," the speaker stated. To explain this, he defined the keywords of the speech theme.

/The youth/ [in boldface] of today in developing countries, "shaped by school, urbanization, wage-earning and the mass media," is characterized by its large numbers; "it is less and less traditionalist and more and more emancipated and jealous of its relative freedom"; it is no longer homogeneous (it includes the rural and the urban youth, the intellectual and the working youth). It has the largest proportion of educated people. And often, it is characterized by "its lack of experience, its enthusiasm, its physical and moral innocence, its devotion to duty, its generosity, its availability." But, in the Ivory Coast, the speaker went on, "this new youth is hampered by a triple handicap: it lacks humility, it lacks discipline, it lacks solidarity."

/Politics/ [in boldface] is neither "the art to deceive men," as d'Alembert used to say, nor that "of preventing people from minding their own business," as Paul Valery thought.

Politics is the art of organizing society so as to enable everyone to live in security and to enjoy the fruits of his labor. The political art is an art of civilization, a science which reflects a certain idea of life.

Thus, depending on its very own genius, each nation formulates its political art, Mr Ekra explained. This is also why a policy valid for a country may not necessarily be valid for another country.

/Developing countries/ [in boldface]. These are countries which have gained their independence recently, in Africa, Latin America, Asia, in the Carribean; they present the following characteristics: a low rate of schooling, an agriculture lacking diversification and providing jobs for most of the active population, an industrialization and urbanization which are still in the embryo, and insufficient or non-existent savings.

These are the evils which beset developing countries, the leaders of which want "to ensure man's advancement in a more peaceful, more prosperous, and more just society." Such a policy requires the cooperation of all, and it concerns the young just as much as the adults, for several reasons:

- Since they belong to the same nation, they are affected in the same manner by whatever happens. They enjoy its benefits, and suffer from its depressions.

- They will not remain young forever and "today's politics shapes the future face of the society in which they will have to find their place and assume their responsibilities as adults."

- The traits characteristic of their age strongly incite them to do so: the young are full of idealism and enthusiasm, they love justice and purity; they are capable of generosity, of self-sacrifice, of surpassing themselves. They are very sensitive to poverty, injustice and illiteracy, and eager to fight them. Because life is open before them, because they have not yet been scarred and disappointed by it, they are not blase, as so many adults are, they are ready to volunteer to transform society. "The youth of a developing country is lucky in that it shares common traits with its country," he stated. "Both are in an unfinished, in a developing stage, their fates are bound. But, while their developments converge, that of the country depends to a large extent on the contribution which the youth will be willing to make to the nation's effort."

What, then, can young people do? First, they must be sufficiently aware of their place within the nation. The live forces and motor of national development, they must work side by side with their elders "whose experience is a guarantee of security and stability." Their place, however, must include three obligations: to be competent, available, trustful.

To be competent, one must receive an adequate education: intellectual, professional, civic and moral. The quality of the education received will determine the quality of the contribution made by the youth to the common work. Therefore, they must pay the greatest attention to this matter, and avoid wasting the opportunities which are offered to them. As far as concrete action is concerned, they must have a fairly accurate knowledge of the political, economic and social situation in their country, because one can struggle only for what one loves, and to love something one must at least know it. Such a knowledge of national realities cannot be acquired at school; rather, it is a voluntary political initiation which takes place at the side of one's elders. This means that a certain intellectual humility has to be accepted, which recognizes to the elders' experience a practical value at least equal to that of the highest university degrees.

According to Mr Ekra, the constitution of the MEECI as a sub-chapter of the Party has this objective: "To initiate more particularly this fraction of the Ivorian youth so that it shall perceive the general interest, and to prepare it to manage public property."

Thus, a dialogue between the young and the adults is created. This is essential, he said, "for, by allowing the adults who wield power to be constantly informed of what goes wrong by the sincere and highly aware youth, a youthful spirit is preserved in the adults and it protects them from the sclerosing conservatism which is a constant threat to the more sedate generations. In addition, dialogue creates and reinforces confidence, which is of capital importance for men of all ages destined to cooperate in achieving public welfare."

To Create National Unity

To Mr Ekra, however, the field of action of youth is that of national unity, the "climate necessary to ensure that all members of the national community participate in its development, the prerequisite to safeguarding the social peace without which we cannot cooperate in strong and durable undertakings."

It is a difficult enterprise, the result of which will not be a work of nature, nor a historical chance event, but rather the outcome of willful, patient and continued efforts, a long-range creation of man into which all, and especially the young, must put their heart and their mind, their feelings and their reason to create a true nation."

And, in particular, it behooves the young to carry out this work, "for they find themselves in the right position to do it: in colleges, at the university, during their military service, in urban districts, offices, cultural and athletic centers, etc., the young learn to know and appreciate one another better, and this enables them to do away gradually with the barriers which generations living apart from one another have placed between the various ethnic groups. In doing this, the young also form new human relationships which could lead to the advent of new mentalities."

The young, according to Mr Ekra, also have a role to play with the people, in order to develop among it a new mentality in agreement with the new regulations. The introduction of new crops, of new agricultural methods, the new marriage laws, the question of schooling, etc., are problems on which the young must act in order to develop among the masses a new mentality oriented toward national progress.

"Because the sociological constraints of the traditional mode of living weigh less heavily on them, because they have the knowledge and the information which enable them to understand the content of the laws and regulations, because their parents--aware that they are educated--are willing to trust their opinions, the young have the duty of explaining to their parents the reasons underlying the political action and decisions of the leadership," he said.

Mr Ekra concluded: "We must all move onto the front of economic development, the basis for all progress, with the very same will and determination which animated yesterday's pioneers; the weapons of this new struggle are called: Union, Discipline, Work, the beautiful motto of our country, to which we should add mutual trust between generations. The Ivorian youth must courageously and resolutely start its march toward our common destiny, taking its share of the joys, sorrows and hopes which accompany the building of a nation."

9294
CSO:4400

MOI RETURNS FROM ARAB COUNTRIES, ANNOUNCES AGREEMENTS

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 29 May 80 p 1

[Article by Mohamed Warsama]

[Excerpts] President Moi returned home yesterday from a triumphant tour of Iraq and the United Arab Emirates and announced that Iraq had agreed to supply oil directly to Kenya.

He announced at the airport that he would soon send Energy Minister Munyua Waiyaki and other ministers to Baghdad to finalise the deal.

He said Kenya's normal oil requirements were about 26 million barrels per year. "We asked the Iraqi Government to supply us directly with 13 million barrels which they have agreed to consider. I will be sending back the Energy Minister and other Ministers to Baghdad to pursue the subject," the President said.

The President said that Iraq had given Kenya more than Sh.220 million for utilisation on various development projects.

Referring to his visit to Abu Dhabi, the President said Kenya's oil needs figured prominently in his discussions with the Sultan of Abu Dhabi, Shaikh Sayed Sultan Al-Nahyan, who is also the President of the United Arab Emirates. He said the Abu Dhabi government has agreed to finance a geo-physical study to determine the presence of oil in Kenya.

Other subjects discussed included meat and horticultural exports to Abu Dhabi.

President Moi said the Kenya Meat Commission's beef export programme would be revived as a result of his talks which led to the opening of the Abu Dhabi market for KMC products.

The president also announced that following his visit to Saudi Arabia last September the oil kingdom gave Kenya financial assistance amounting to Sh.500,087,000 for the construction of roads including one to Lodwar, a Sh.100 million sewage system in Mombasa and another Sh.100 million for a power project at Naivasha.

CSO: 4420

'DAILY NATION' COMMENTS ON OBOTE RETURN

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 28 May 80 p 6

[Editorial: "The Significance of Obote's Return"]

[Text] Former Ugandan President Milton Obote yesterday returned to a country in chaos, its economy in ruins, and civil order something people only dream about. In his homecoming speech at Bushenyi, he promised to end corruption and inefficiency in the public services, but the most striking thing about his return was its location. Obote flew from Tanzania to Mbarara, then drove to Bushenyi. It is said many towns wanted to be the first to play host to him, but Obote chose Bushenyi, in the south-western part of the country, because it was a stronghold of his party, the Uganda People's Congress (UPC).

Obviously a welcome in the capital, Kampala, would have presented the regime with serious security problems. With ex-President Godfrey Binaisa still detained in Entebbe, that town was not an acceptable alternative either. The choice of Bushenyi also served another purpose; it meant he returned first to a place outside his ethnic area, underscoring the fact that he is a national rather than a regional leader. One sees here the hand of the superb tactician he always was when he was in power.

That the UPC managed to assemble so many people from all parts of the country at Bushenyi is also worthy of note for it shows that the party did not die during the nine years Obote was in exile. That is a remarkable achievement since parties on this continent so often die in mere hours! The present regime contains some UPC supporters and they obviously aided in the provision of petrol, vehicles, soft drinks and beer, yet this in no way diminishes the achievement of the party.

Obote also said that the UPC will aim at reconciliation and reconstruction. It is interesting that he spoke in the name of the party rather than as a Presidential candidate, though there is little doubt he will soon formally become one. His gesture to the party — speaking for UPC objectives — is important in the present context when many Ugandan leaders seem not to be interested in building public institutions. It is only by strengthening collective institutions, we feel, that the many conflicts existing in Uganda today will be narrowed to manageable proportions. Only by so doing will the factionalism of the past year — a problem he also touched on — be ended. Factionalism only serves to split the country even more than it has already been split by the failures of the Amin years.

Obote criticised the Organisation of African Unity and the international community for not having condemned Amin while he was in office. Often in this column in the past we have stated emphatically that all dictators must be condemned. The OAU put a narrow interpretation on its Charter provisions (against interference in the domestic affairs of member States) when it debated the Amin issue. It took the same position when it debated the aid given to the Uganda National Liberation Front (UNLF) by Tanzania. This hard position needs to be reviewed soon.

Now that Obote is back in Uganda, the tempo of political activity will be stepped up. We have said before that all political parties should be allowed to conduct their campaigns freely. We repeat this call to the Military Commission. Even if it turns out that the Commission favours the UPC and its candidate, who is likely to be Obote, it will be a mistake for it to interfere with other parties and other candidates. Impartiality is of the utmost importance if Uganda is to tackle the difficult task of reconciliation and reconstruction hoping to succeed.

We in Kenya have noted Obote's gesture of friendship towards our country. But it coincided with an uncalled for swipe at us by the government newspaper in Kampala. These are early days as Uganda goes into a new period of political activity, but people of peace and goodwill here and everywhere wish its leaders and people well in tackling the tasks that lie ahead of them.

CSO: 4420

MINISTER REVIEWS STATE OF ECONOMY

Nairobi SUNDAY NATION in English 25 May 80 p 4

[Interview with Dr Zachary Onyonka, minister for economic planning, by John Esibi "last week"]

[Excerpt] **Dr. Onyonka, as Kenya's Minister in charge of Economic Planning, how would you assess and review this country's economic progress since attaining its independence?**

A. First of all, before I refer to our own economic situation, I should like to add on that the prevailing conditions in most of these African countries are due to the fact that we are faced with a rather difficult international situation which has resulted into rather stagnant economy. Many countries have been forced into that very difficult situation.

In this respect, I think that Kenya is not in any way different from other African countries. First of all we adopted the right strategy of placing greater emphasis on agricultural sector and in rural areas generally.

I must mention here that we have done very well in building major roads, primary roads. We have plans to improve all these. But admittedly we are still faced with problems related to unemployment.

It is unfortunate that at the moment, we face an economic situation first with respect of balance of payment which is very tight. This means that without adequate resources in that sector, we face major constraint from the point of implementing our development programme.

The other constraint has also risen with respect to public expenditure. It also means that we have to be able to bring the balance of payment in line because these two are interlinked.

Q. Only last week you did tell Parliament that some local industries are doing what you termed as "holding the country's economy at ransom", by producing "shoddy goods". If that is the case, it is also a fact that it is what our economic planning has produced, which by the way is your ministry's planning. How do you explain this fact?

A. First of all I would like to point out that it is not every industry which has performed badly in this respect. There are some industries which from a very humble beginning have produced quality goods which they dispose of at a very reasonable price.

However, there are some industries, it would appear, which have enjoyed a monopoly situation right from their establishment and subsequently have been able to operate and abuse the privileges they have been accorded.

It is our feeling here that the local consumer is getting a very raw deal whereby he is paying for low quality goods in some cases. This is really to say that there is a scope for improvement.

Some of these things have happened because of the industrial development strategy which we initially initiated after our independence. This as you know, involves import substitution strategy, which by and large involve locally produced items.

We have done so far very well in this field, but I think that after a period of ten years, there is need for us to take stock of the whole exercise... and precisely this is what we have done in the current Sessional Paper I intend officially to present before Parliament shortly.

We have not gone into details. But we are proposing that we need to change our industrial strategy whereby we would be producing not only for the local market, but also for exports.

We are not going to be able to compete internationally unless we improve the quality of goods and also charge reasonable prices. In future, we are going to insist that where there is hope of establishment of more than one industry in one particular sector, it will be allowed... rather than entering into agreement with the existing industries which have taken advantage of that situation.

Also in some cases we will allow in external imports from abroad which would compete with the locally produced goods. This would imply less dependence on controlled and licences and an increased dependence tariffs.

System

Now I am not of course suggesting that we are going to dismantle the whole system tomorrow. Each case will be reviewed on its own merit. But gradually we would like to produce an outward looking trading strategy.

Q. The recent Government imports restriction regulation has caused hardships to certain industrialists in that the local people have had to go without certain necessary goods. Whereas it is important that Kenya should conserve her foreign exchange, don't you think the Government ought to relax this regulation in order to allow those who can afford imported goods get them?

A. It is true to say that certain goods are these days a necessity rather than a luxury. But all the same we have to look at the situation from the point of view of our foreign exchange resources.

Take, for instance, the importation of big cars into this country. We have allowed those who can afford big cars to pay extra prices through duty. In many developing countries, i.e. India (where I have just been recently) the importation of big cars is not allowed any longer.

What they are doing there is that they are locally assembling small cars which are actually available in the local market. In Kenya, I would say we have been fairly liberal. Given the prevailing foreign exchange situation, we have had to impose certain quotas for the importation of cars.

Of course we have to remain selective so that the available foreign exchange is utilised on what we consider basic needs to the entire nation. For example greater priority has to be accorded to industrial development investments.

We need machinery to be able to undertake certain ventures. What we are trying to do is to be more cautious and be able to manage our affairs in the manner that we would not allow things get out of control.

We are always prepared to liberalise our import licences. But given the current economic situation in Kenya, I think we are doing the best we can.

Q. Economists, by their training, very often like sounding pessimistic rather than optimistic whenever they talk of the future economic situation of a given country. This is precisely what you are already doing here Mr. Minister, with due respect. Why do you, economists like being "alarmists" when it comes to analysing economic situations?

A. First of all Kenya's economy as well as the economies of many developing world are open economies which depend to a very large extent on external trade. This means that a fairly large component of their Gross National Product, is derived from economic activities that have much to do with external trade. And in open economies such countries are very much affected by what happens beyond their control of actually what is going to happen outside their borders.

Take for instance the question of the energy crunch. By 1973 we were spending about 10 per cent of our gross foreign exchange earnings from the importation of petrol. After the 1973 oil price rise, we are actually spending nearly over 25 per cent.

What has happened is that whereas we used to spend only about 60 per cent of our foreign exchange earnings from coffee on the importation of oil, now we are spending about roughly 120 per cent of our earnings.

So when you accuse the economists of being pessimistic, my impression is that many of them tend to read correctly the facts and figures. I am not, of course, trying to say the economists are always unanimous when it comes to interpreting these facts. But by and large the prevailing international situation is such that it is difficult to read it otherwise. The international trade figures are there for anyone interested to study them. Given these external exposures we are really left with no alternative other than to conclude that for the next three to four years developing nations face hard economic situations.

It means really that we are caught up in a very difficult situation and so we have to be prepared to tighten our belts. It is therefore, important that we manage our domestic affairs in such a way that we keep things under control.

Q. When the Government frequently asks Kenyans to "tighten their belts", Dr. Onyonka, does this really mean the country is in the red or what? And Kenya still creditworthy?

A. Let me begin with respect to credit-worthiness. As you know our country has sustained a fairly good record in this regard. I am proud to say that Kenya is one of the few countries that have maintained their record of credit-worthiness.

However, as we have continued progressing over the years, it means that the debt servicing ration has had to change. Some of our debts have matured and we have had to make a very substantial repayment on some of these loans.

But when we talk of "belt tightening", it really means that we cannot afford any longer, for example, large quantities of external loans. It therefore, means that there is a need for striving to get softer loans. This is one of those things we would like to keep under control.

It just means that we cannot afford to be careless with our hard earned foreign exchange. We are not, however, in a very desperate situation. We hope things will improve considerably.

Q. Supposing the situation doesn't improve as the Government would certainly like things to remain, are you going to be forced to resort to other obvious measures such as devaluing the country's currency? By the way Dr. Onyonka there have been recently rumours to the effect that Kenya plans to devalue her shilling. Can you confirm or deny those rumours here?

A. That is really out of question. One has really to visualise what one expects out of devaluation. Would it make easier for example to export our coffee? Our tea? What do we really stand to gain by devaluation in the near future?

I personally doubt that there is any tangible benefits, given all the factors. Because there are specific factors which we normally have to take into account and try to assess the possible gains.

Some of them are likely to be of a short term gain ... that they probably are not worthy the exercise. So definitely I would like to say that as far as we are concerned, we don't view that as a solution to our present problems.

Q. We also note that the country's national growth rate recently has slowed down from 6.3 per cent to 4.4 per cent. What are the contributory factors to this? Does that mean we are de-developing instead of developing?

A. Those are our projections. It is true that in the light of our latest developments as outlined in the current Sessional Paper, it means that we anticipate lower growth rate during our planning period.

As you know our population is steadily increasing at an alarming rate. However, here it means that in terms of average income per capita, we are going to achieve some progress as well as there is going to be slow progress.

There can be no magic solutions to such a problem, except through measures such as family planning programmes that we shall achieve better results. But as things are right now, we are not looking for a major improvement. But at least we have worked out things in such a way that we ought to be able to hold things together which is not possible in many countries.

Q. The Sessional Paper warns that during the next three to four years there will be less job opportunities, less chances of salary increases, and yet prices will keep rising. In a country like Kenya where a majority are unemployed and, therefore, depending on those few employed, don't you think this is going to cause even tougher economic hardships to Kenyans?

A. First of all it is important to realise that those who happened to be employed are very lucky indeed. It is true that job opportunities are going to remain limited. So in a way, we are asking those employed also to make a sacrifice however smaller it may be.

Benefits

We are in the process of trying to work out a separate detailed paper on employment situation. By trying to hold wage increases for a while, we are trying to help the situation. We are not however suggesting that no increments of any kind will be allowed. But they will be moderate increases in line with the established policy.

Q. When launching the current Development Plan, the Government did explain that the current plan is for the poor and that it would eventually declare war on poverty. Can you explain how possible this really is going to be when in fact the Sessional Paper is already warning of danger points?

A. In order to improve what is now known as the bulk of our people, we have adopted what is now conventionally known as the basic need approach. This involves the provision of health facilities, education facilities, best housing and some of the necessary services.

If you look at the Sessional Paper, to a large extent, we have tried to leave the health aspect intact. Because we know these are things which affect the ordinary people. We are leaving such services like the water facilities which we believe will go in a long run to improve the conditions of our people, particularly in the rural areas.

CSO: 4420

PAPER ON ECONOMIC PROSPECTS SUBMITTED FOR DEBATE

'Gloomy' Economic Picture

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 15 May 80 p 1

[Article by Cornelius Nyamboki]

[Text] DOMESTIC food production will not meet all the requirements of wananchi and, as a result, the Government will spend Sh. 540 million to import food this year.

This message is contained in the Government's Sessional Paper, No. 4 of 1980, on Economic Prospects and Policies. It has just been published.

The paper was laid before Parliament yesterday by Economic Planning Minister Zachary Onyonka. He requested that the 35-page detailed document be debated as soon as possible.

The White Paper covers, among other subjects, the formulation of policies on incomes, industry, food, and the co-ordination and timing of policy initiatives.

Painting a gloomy economic picture for the remaining period of the Fourth Development Plan, the paper said supplies of maize, wheat, rice and milk will not suffice the country's demand during the current year.

Giving the drought as the main reason for the shortages of these commodities, the paper also outlined other factors which have contributed to the bleak food production and distribution situation.

Farmers have been blamed for reducing production because of falling producer prices, the Sessional Paper asserted.

To alleviate this shortage, it added, importation of grain and milk will be intensified this year and the next.

"Although we will be able to obtain some of these imports on concessionary terms, a substantial portion will also have to be purchased by drawing on our own foreign exchange reserves," it noted.

The report implied that the coming budgetary proposals would mean tightening up on the utilisation of foreign reserves.

Saying that the Government will ensure sufficient supplies of food in the country, the paper added: "The management of storage, distribution and marketing will be improved."

But it warned: "The Government will ensure that there is no over-reacting by importing more food than we shall need because this could be very detrimental to our long-term development programme."

The report assured Kenyans that appropriate steps have already been taken to alleviate the short-term problem of food shortages.

On fundamental long-term agricultural growth, the paper pointed out that an inter-Ministerial food policy committee has been formed to advise on future domestic production targets.

'DAILY NATION' Comment

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 16 May 80 p 6

[Editorial: "Stop Wasting or Perish"]

[Text]

SESSIONAL Paper No. 4 of 1980 on "Economic Prospects and Policies" tabled in Parliament this week by the Minister for Economic Planning, Dr. Z. Onyonka, is an important document which analyses our economy and sets out strategy for the balance of the 1978-83 Development Plan period. In a way, it is an indicator of what the Budget will be like. The hard fact is that we are in serious economic straits because of international inflation, population growth, stagnating agriculture, and a non-export oriented manufacturing sector.

In the words of the Sessional Paper, "the brutal facts are however that, unless immediate financial difficulties are successfully dealt with, the longer term structural adjustments will be much harder to achieve. And until our economic circumstances improve, full pursuit of social welfare objectives must be deferred".

There are, essentially, two causes for our plight. Since the formulation of the 1978-83 plan we have not been able to earn as much foreign exchange as expected since the prices of our exports have not kept up with the cost of imports, particularly of oil. In 1973 we spent 10 per cent of our foreign exchange earnings in oil. By 1979 we were spending 24 per cent of it on the same. Put differently, whereas 60 per cent of all coffee export earnings were able to buy all the oil we needed in 1973, by 1979, no less than 120 per cent of our coffee earnings were required to meet the oil bill. And we have not merely had to spend more on oil alone. We have had to expand our defence budget to maintain national security.

Because of these and other constraints, the Minister estimates that annual average growth for the period will be 5.4 per cent rather than the anticipated 6.3 per cent. This reduction will in turn mean reduced employment. The Minister also expects a balance of payments deficit of K£203 million for the period and a shortfall in Government revenues of K£583 million. As a result, most Government expenditures will have to be reduced, though the cuts will be in the recurrent, rather than the development budget. The paper recommends that the Government should not expand external private bank borrowing since this is extremely expensive. This, after all, is the kind of borrowing that has ruined many African economies.

Given that Government revenues will be reduced, and also because the population is growing at an annual rate of 3.9 per cent, there is expected to be a relative reduction in general welfare. The only long-term solution is to improve production in agriculture and its related activities since the modern sector only accounts for 20 per cent of our total employment. The importance of agriculture in our economy, moreover, is underscored by the paper. The country produces crops for export, to feed this nation, and to some extent for local manufacturing.

Improvements in efficient management, including tax collection, are some of the fiscal measures to be undertaken. Money supply will be restricted, with interest rates rising to attract savings, and the Government borrowing more from the commercial banks rather than the Central Bank. This in turn will mean that there will be less bank credit for the business sector and individuals.

The income and wages policy will emphasise steps to improve the lower ranks, as opposed to salary rises for the high income groups which tend to be inflationary. However, one fundamental shift is in industrial policy. In the past the Government has sought to protect local industries to produce substitutes for imports. This has worked and imported consumer goods account for only 15 per cent of our import bill.

The new policy will seek to move towards industrial exports. An export credit and guarantee scheme will be introduced and the administration of export compensation will be simplified. It is important, therefore, that manufacturers alter production patterns to give the country more exports to improve its balance of payments position.

The paper also addresses itself to food production. The country has of late had to import foodgrains and milk and agriculture has been growing at only 2.5 per cent annually since 1972, just above half of the annual increase in population. Future policy here includes better credit and pricing mechanisms, changes in land policy, the development of arid and semi-arid areas, and encouraging crops which employ more people in agriculture.

But perhaps the main cause of our economic problems is the high cost of oil. The Government is to step up exploration, increase prices — and it may get into rationing. We have expressed ourselves on the issue of oil wastage before. We still think the sooner it is curbed the better it will be for all of us.

The message in this Sessional Paper, simply put, is: We must save on energy. We must improve agricultural productivity. We must find ways of reducing population growth. There will not be much cheap money to borrow. Manufacturers must look for foreign markets.

The use of planning is to show alternatives. It seems to us that the Minister for Planning has just done that. If we are to survive we must tighten our belts, produce, and save more. The days of idle talk and speculative waste are gone.

CSO: 4420

REPORT REVEALS SHORTCOMINGS IN LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 23 May 80 pp 1, 36

[Article by Cornelius Nyamboki]

[Text] Kenya's local authorities have been accused of serious financial mismanagement.

This is revealed in an 81-page report which deals with the two years ended December 31, 1978.

It was compiled by the Controller and Auditor-General, Mr. D. G. Njoroge, who has now called for a drastic review of all local authorities' financial administration.

The report, just published, covers all county town, municipal and city councils.

Mr. Njoroge said the general shortcomings disclosed by the audit inspections included:

Serious weaknesses in financial control, particularly inadequate internal control and supervision over receipts and expenditure.

Incomplete, or poorly maintained, records relating to accountable documents and tax control of receipt books.

Poorly maintained subsidiary revenue and other records such as registers relating to plot rents, rates and private telephone trunk calls, stores ledgers, inventories, vehicle work-tickets and petrol records.

Said Mr. Njoroge, "the situation clearly calls for a drastic and far-reaching review and a strengthening of the local authorities' financial administration."

The audit report, was prepared in accordance with Parliamentary regulations.

"In previous reports to Parliament, concern was expressed at the lack of budgetary control and a disregard by the majority of the local authorities of regulations relating to the preparation, submission and approval of the annual supplementary estimates," said Mr. Njoroge.

"The audit inspections of council accounts carried out in the two years under review, reveal there was no significant improvement. Most councils continued to incur expenditure in excess of the approved estimates without obtaining prior Ministerial approval," he added.

The machinery for the collection of revenue was also found to be lax in most councils, as was evident from [illegible] shortfalls and substantial arrears of revenue."

On the submission of abstracts of accounts for auditing, Mr. Njoroge noted: "The low standard of book-keeping and shortage of qualified and experienced accounting staff, and the consequent inability of most of the councils to produce final statements of accounts within the statutory time, continues to cause concern."

The report said: "In the absence of these annual abstracts it has been impossible to ascertain how public funds entrusted to these councils has been utilised."

On Nairobi City Council, the report disclosed there were irregularities in the collection of revenue, tender procedures, budgetary control and medical claims. The council, the report revealed, is owed Sh.62.8 million in outstanding debts. Kenya Railways is reported to owe the city council Sh.1 million.

Stating that the financial situation at City Hall continued to deteriorate during the period under review, the report disclosed that general sundry debts increased from Sh.11.6 million in December, 1976 to Sh.13 million in December the following year.

"Various councillors owed the council a total of 124,142/- at December 31, 1977 including a total of 48,230/- due from one councillor in respect of rents for two houses for the period July, 1975 to December, 1977," the report revealed.

On City Hall extensions, initiated eight years ago, the report said the project experienced considerable delays culminating in the contractor being placed in receivership in September, 1975.

A performance bond claimed by the council because of the termination of the contract, was settled last year, but lost a considerable amount of money in relation to cost of completion, liquidated damages and rates remission against the contractor's receiver.

The report said there was a long lapse between the termination of the original contract and consideration of fresh tenders in April, 1977, when the tenders committee resolved that none of the tenders received should be accepted and that the contract should be re-advertised. No reasons were given for this decision.

As a result, the council lost almost Sh.2 million due to the "poor management in which this contract was handled."

The report said the loss incurred in the project was a result of disregard to giving the tender to the lowest bidder.

On medical and general stores, the report observed: "Attention was drawn to the unsatisfactory manner in which the council's medical and general stores records were maintained and particularly to the discrepancies between balances reflected on the bin cards and those on the computer tabulations which should normally agree."

Saying there had not been any improvement in the situation previously reported, Mr. Njoroge said: "The stock count in respect of medical stores disclosed that the stores ledger figure exceeded the actual stocks by Sh.2.21 million.

Referring to Mombasa Municipal Council, the report said a lack of effective and reliable internal audit continued to exist and as a result, the council suffered losses through wastage, fraud and thefts.

Mr. Njoroge said: "Attention was drawn to several cases of misappropriation and thefts of revenue collection, school fees and stores amounting to 75,375/-.

Five [illegible], the report noted, misappropriated 61,270/- relating to a building fund collection.

Other areas where the council had failed to compromise its expenditure relate to settlement of water bills, mileage allowances, travelling and medical expenses.

Mombasa Municipal Council was also found to be flouting tender procedures and as a result, incurred big losses by buying items from unauthorised and uneconomical sources.

The financial administration of Kisumu Municipal Council, the report said, continued to be very weak, resulting in the eventual dissolution of the council by the Ministry of Local Government in January, last year.

Another council found to have disregarded proper financial procedures by the audit team was Kiambu County Council which, incurred an unauthorised over-expenditure of Sh.60.3 million.

Mr. Njoroge said the flagrant disregard for proper financial control in Kiambu resulted in the depletion of the council's fixed deposits from Sh.25.2 million to Sh.15.2 million by December 31, 1978.

Another feature revealed by the report concerns the giving of grants amounting to more than Sh.5 million to councillors to donate to Harambee projects and therefore earn political credit.

Said the report: "Test checks carried out revealed that in many cases there was no indication that the donations were ever received by the projects concerned."

During the period under review, the council is reported to have awarded a road construction contract to one of its employees who eventually did no work but pocketed Sh.30 million. And 41,732/- was also paid for the building of a bridge which was never constructed.

Other significant features in respect of other councils include:

Embu County Council: Defrauded of 17,095/- by an oil company and 55,715/- loss for the delay in putting Runyenjes Market into operation.

Meru County Council: Irregular disposal of council property which subsequently was seized by councillors, council employees and other persons. Council vehicles were also used extensively to transport children to school, transporting building materials to churches and for other private uses for which no hire charges were raised.

Kitui County Council: The council houses, where some senior staff officers, including the county clerk, treasurer, and internal auditor lived had not been installed with water meters.

["The situation clearly calls for a drastic and far-reaching review and a strengthening of the local authorities' financial administration."]

CSO: 4420

STATISTICS ON MOMBASA PORT, DRYDOCK VOLUME

Increase in Port Traffic

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 24 May 80 p 11

[Text] The total dry general cargo handled at the port of Mombasa over the first four months of 1980 has surpassed last years. It was approximately 997,984 deadweight tons.

In the first quarter of last year, the port had handled 657,995 tons.

The monthly performance this year has continued to reflect tremendous improvement as compared to 1979. In April, the port handled approximately 242,139 tons. This comprised 166,123 tons of imports and 76,016 tons of exports. This was 58,138 tons higher than during the corresponding month last year. But there was a drop of 7,742 tons as compared to the preceding month of March.

April 1979, the port handled 184,001 tons; 98,141 tons of imports and 85,860 tons of exports.

During March this year, the port handled 249,881 tons; 153,832 tons of imports and 96,049 tons of exports.

Of the total tonnage handled at the port up to the end of April, this year, imports made up 630,439 tons, an increase of 270,267 tons compared to the corresponding period last year when only 369,439 tons were handled.

The exports handled in the same period this year also showed a rise of 70,722 tons. A total of 296,823 tons and 267,545 tons of exports were handled at the port in the first quarter of 1979 and 1980 respectively.

Over 71 general cargo ships called at the port last month.

Declining Drydock Business

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 24 May 80 p 11

[Text] World-wide recession has been blamed for the decline of business at the multi-million drydock in Mombasa.

The dockyard, the only one of its type between the Cape and the Persian Gulf, went into operation last year. It was expected to earn about Sh.20 million in foreign exchange for Kenya.

The new dock is managed by African Marine and General Engineering Co. Ltd., in which the Kenya Government has 33 per cent shares.

When the project was initiated, the dock was expected to serve Tanzania and other neighbouring countries.

A few months ago, it handled more than 74 ships of various tonnage, 12 of them of more than 10,000 tons.

But within the last few months, the dock's performance has not been impressive because shipowners have shown a tendency of cutting down their operation costs.

Confirming this yesterday, African Marine's works manager, Mr. A. Cullingworth, said the recession in the shipping industry greatly affected the operations of the drydock because not many ships were coming to the yard for dry-docking. He was briefing a five-man team from the Federation of Indian Export Organisation (FIEO) which visited the yard as part of its tour of Mombasa.

The delegation, led by Dr V. K. Raina, made a similar visit to the Mombasa Port and later conferred with Mr. Jonathan Mturi, managing director of Kenya Ports Authority.

Mr. Cullingworth told the Indian delegates that there was a good turn-around of ships at Mombasa Port which reduced the period a ship has to stay at the port.

A big problem experienced by African Marine, he said, was delay of payments by ship-owners whose ships come to the dock for repairs. Such delays reduce the firm's cash flow and affect its operations, Mr Cullingworth said.

The local firms which used to place big orders for steel and other engineering works with the firm no longer did so because of financial constraints according to a reliable source.

Mr. Cullingworth told the visitors that African Marine was capable of producing ferry crafts and fishing vessels. Most of the ferry craft of the Kenya Bus Services were made by the firm, he said.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

COMBAT OF SHIFTA ACTIVITY--The Government has sent a squad of the General Service Unit to Marsabit District to stamp out Shifta activities there, an Assistant Minister in the Office of the President, Mr. Isaac Salatt, said. Mr. Salatt was answering a question from Moyale MP G.H. Liban. He said the Government had the duty to protect its nationals from armed bandits and there was adequate security in Moyale. He added that the people of Moyale had received 1,500 bags of maize meal since March and the Government would continue to assist them. Mr. Salatt, however, denied claims that many people had fled from Moyale to neighbouring Ethiopia because of the Shifta menace. Mr. Liban claimed that security in Moyale had greatly deteriorated and had caused many Kenyans to live in fear and under starvation. He alleged that those who flee Moyale to Marsabit got arrested. [Excerpt] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 15 May 80 p 4]

COMPANY SHARES FOR EMPLOYEES--A freelance motion asking the Government to introduce legislation forcing industries, big farms and firms to sell shares to their workers was passed by the House after the Government introduced an amendment to the motion. Moving it Mr. Gitu Kahengeri (Juja) said the motion conformed with the Kanu manifesto which calls for equitable distribution of income and social justice. Saying it was calling for human development, the Member said the House only required those running lucrative businesses and industries to allow their workers to buy shares. "We are not asking for nationalisation of those industries and farms, but we are asking them to allow the workers who toil to get shares and receive something at the end of the year," said the MP. [Excerpt] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 15 May 80 p 4]

EEC GRANTS, LOANS--Kenya is to get Sh.946 million from the European Economic Community (EEC) in the form of grants and soft loans for development. According to a Standard Chartered Bank Ltd. report, the aid is the result of a recent visit to Kenya by Mr. Klaus Meyer, EEC's director-general in the development commission, and the signing of an agreement with EEC. It also forms the Community's financial aid to Kenya during the Lome II Convention period, 1980-85. Of the aid, Sh.684 million will be provided as grants and Sh.262 million as special soft loans repayable over 20 years with a 10-year grace period and a one per cent interest rate annually, said the report. It also says that rural development and energy programmes are

likely to receive 60 per cent of the aid. Other priority sectors will be mining, education, technical training, transport and communications and self-help projects. The European Investment Bank will provide a further Sh.630 million in loans and risk capital contributions, said the report. [Excerpt] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 16 May 80 p 3]

ARAB-KENYAN SHIPPING LINE--Arab countries are reportedly considering a plan to form a joint shipping line with Kenya to promote trade between Kenya and the Arab world. Informed sources said the plan had been under consideration for a long time and that a team was recently appointed to study its viability. Confirming this the chairman of the Union Bank of Oman, Mr. Khamis Al-Hashar, said: "Once the study has been completed, we shall make it public so that interested parties can join in the formation of the shipping line." Mr. Al-Hashar said their current trip to Kenya was designed to explore the possibility of increasing trade between Kenya and Arabia. He said the Arab countries had a big market for Kenyan products and appealed to Kenyans to exploit it. He said his delegation had submitted a number of proposals to the Kenya Government "and we are waiting for a response." [Excerpts] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 17 May 80 p 11]

LAND SALE POLICY--The Government has been urged by nominated MP Mrs Eddah Gachukia, to device a policy to cover buying and selling of land in Kenya. The MP also called for a land-ceiling to limit the acreage an individual could own. She said the widening gap between the "haves" and the "have-nots," must be bridged. She was contributing to a motion by the Nakuru MP, Mr. Koigi Wamwere, asking the Government to give preference to landless wananchi who have formed groups to purchase land instead of letting the rich have the upper hand. Replying to the members, an Assistant Minister in the Office of President, Mr. Justus ole Tipis, said the question of landlessness is going "to be with us and will continue to be with us." He added, however, that the Government had purchased the tracts of land to settle the landless. "The Government will continue to assist groups that are anxious to purchase land and will supervise su.. deals to ensure wananchi are not cheated," he assured. [Excerpts] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 29 May 80 p 4]

FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF LAND--More than 80 per cent of the formerly foreign-owned land in Kenya has been bought out by wananchi through the willing buyer, willing seller practice, Parliament was told. Answering a question from Nyando MP Mr. Onyango-Midika who wanted to know how much of agricultural land was still in the hands of foreigners and, what plans the Government had to resettle wananchi on this land, a Minister of State, in the President's Office Mr G.G. Kariuki said that so far 462,334 acres of land was under foreign ownership. He said the Government would not force these foreigners to sell the land to Kenyans but was encouraging wananchi to form groups to buy these farms. Mr. Kariuki said the Government had in the past been buying these lands through the British Government grants. He said many Kenyans had acquired most of the land in the former White highlands using loans obtained from the Agricultural Finance Corporation and banks. Mr. Kariuki assured Parliament that it was important to keep a record of the acreage held by foreigners and said he had directed the provincial administration to carry out on the spot checks and find out who owned what land and a true report would be established by the Government later. [Excerpt] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 22 May 80 p 4]

FOREIGN SHARE OF INDUSTRY--The present trend where non-Kenyans get 94 per cent of all the money going into the construction industry should be changed so that Kenyans themselves enjoy this money. This was said at the weekend by the national interim chairman of the Kenya Association of African Contractors (KAAC), Coun. Nahashon Waithaka Kanyi, when he presided over the association's elections for the Western Province branch at Kakamega. Coun. Kanyi, who is also the Mayor of Nyeri, said the construction industry is one of those few industries in which foreigners still have a bigger share than locals and called on African contractors to come forward and man the industry. [Excerpt] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 19 May 80 p 5]

MOI ON KPU--President Moi has directed newspapers to stop writing about the defunct Kenya People's Union. The President said this at Kisumu State Lodge on Friday when he addressed thousands of people who turned up at the Kisumu Lodge to welcome him to Nyanza Province. He said newspapers should stop immediately from writing about KPU or referring to some people as ex-KPU because the party was dead and forgotten. President Moi said that people should be on the lookout for anybody who may try to move food illegally across the Kenya boundary. He said people will only have themselves to blame if they allow food-smuggling across the boundary, adding that people should report suspicious characters to the authorities. [Excerpt] [Nairobi SUNDAY NATION in English 18 May 80 (no page given)]

CSO: 4410

MANY AMBIGUITIES APPARENT IN POST-COUP SITUATION

Paris LE MONDE in French 29 Apr 80 pp 1, 8

[Article by Jean-Claude Pomonti: "Who Is Blaming Whom?"]

[Text] Monrovia--Undoubtedly in order to calm the emotion created by the 22 April executions, on Friday, 25 April, the People's Council of Redemption freed some 60 prisoners at the curfew hour. A few hours earlier, Minister of Justice Chea Cheapoo had nevertheless given newsmen a list of some 130 accused persons who had been executed, arrested or being sought for their activities under the old regime. The minister also announced that under the terms of a decree promulgated the evening before, heads of public and joint public and private enterprises were affected, including foreigners, and would be temporarily placed under house arrest, a measure which, if applied, would involve some 20 Americans and British citizens.

It is difficult for the press to make sense out of the lists of prisoners and accused persons hastily supplied by the Liberian Government. Ephraim Smallwood, who attended Chea Cheapoo's press conference, is allegedly on the list himself, unless it is another person by the same name who was attorney general under the old regime. Major Jarboh, the presumed author of an abortive countercoup on 14 April and who has reportedly fled, is not yet on the list of persons sought. "But you will note," the minister said in this connection, "that we reserve the right, from time to time, to prosecute other persons."

Confusion is equally great with respect to jurisdictions. Chea Cheapoo announced the formation of a Supreme People's Tribunal, made up of seven civilian judges. However, he stated that the military tribunal, which has already investigated the cases of at least 14 dignitaries, 13 of which were exe- [presumably executed; line omitted] "of redemption," the foreign diplomats (sic) will come under the new Supreme Tribunal. Who are they? Liberian diplomats posted abroad or diplomats accredited with the Monrovia government? The diplomatic corps here would like to know.

Their sappers' work bore fruit, but since they were either interned or paralyzed beginning in March 1980, it was 17 noncommissioned officers who,

to the surprise of everyone and without encountering any resistance, dealt the coup de grace to the old regime and set up the People's Council of Redemption (CPR) that now reigns. They have adopted the slogan of the PPP [presumably People's Progressive Party]: "In the name of the people, the fight continues."

The highest level of government is therefore the CPR, one of whose members at least, Thomas Quiwonkpa, a staff sergent by trade, was promoted to the rank of brigade general and general commanding officer of the armed forces. The Council's president is the chief of state, Staff Sgt Samuel Doe, 26, who wears fatigues and a helmet. He is apparently a person without preconceived ideas, little familiar with the mysteries of politics, diplomacy and naturally, public administration.

At this level, there was apparently concern, in the beginning, for restoring order -- putting an end to the looting that lasted for several days -- and for rooting out the members of "the clique" that ruled the country. When one adds the element of fear -- of the unknown or of possible plots that the allies of the late William Tolbert could have hatched -- one perhaps has a better understanding of the display of cruelty for which Monrovia was the theater: the showing of half decomposed bodies and their public burial in a common grave, summary executions of dignitaries belonging to the old regime in the presence of a crowd that applauded and undoubtedly reassured itself. The new government was demonstrating its strength. Tolbert and his entourage no longer existed. For the noncommissioned officers, this proof counted much more, at the outset, than the reactions it might arouse inside or outside the borders.

At the second level of power is a government of 17 ministers made up of leaders of the PFP freed on 12 April, those from Moja, five officers and three former "technician" ministers under Tolbert. This Cabinet therefore brings together the opposition under the old regime and representatives of a more traditional military hierarchy, sensitive to international opinion and wishing to consolidate the foundations of the new regime: restore order, get the economy back on its feet and provide the country with new institutions. Although they deny it publicly, they seem concerned about seeing the "revolution" they prayed for carried away or at least short-circuited by noncommissioned officers.

This unlikely alliance appears above all to be held together by its rejection of the past. In a society marked by a spirit of "redemption," "ransom" and "purification," one diplomat told us, "there is no possible going back to the old people," and he added, "but as soon as one has proved that one can pull off a coup d'etat in Liberia...." One can easily imagine the end to his sentence.

In many African countries, the victims of under-administration and those scourges which tribalism, territorial balkanization and economic dependency are, the "revolution" has often gone astray after a few months. Just

because it is the oldest independent nation in Black Africa, Liberia is not necessarily safe from this type of process and there is nothing to guarantee that the unanimity against the "old guard" -- Tobert and his friends -- does not conceal a profound misunderstanding. At any rate, the current coalition seems to be too much a product of circumstances to be lasting.

At a press conference given by Minister of Justice Chea Cheapoo, lawyer of the PPP, one Liberian newsman complained of having been held up by a soldier in a street of Monrovia. "If that is true," the minister replied, "bring me that soldier so that I may have proof. When one fights for freedom, one should be afraid of nothing." For its part, the national radio broadcast appeals for clemency from Amnesty International, the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity and the International League of Human Rights.

Provincial Air

In Monrovia, since the coup d'etat and the imposition of a curfew at night, the "second class" of the Liberian Army now runs the show, with increasing discretion, however. Foreign sailors on leave have vanished. The Ducor Hotel, which overlooks the city, is half empty. This port of passage, with its free zone and flags of convenience, goes to sleep before dark, at 1800 hours, when curfew is sounded. The city has regained its provincial air, even when the hundreds of dancers from *l'Afrique profonde* stroll on the grounds of the presidential palace of a morning. This return to the bush is all the more noticeable because the 17 members of the CPR reportedly belong to the ethnic group called the Krans, a minority from the northeast. Never has the capital, that point of contact between the outside world -- especially America -- and the African tropical forest been so split, so divided, like the gap that seems to separate the respective ambitions of the ministers from their chief noncommissioned officers.

One question must therefore be asked: Is a countercoup conceivable, not in order to restore the old order, but in order to separate the apprentice builders from the revanchists, the "reasonable" from what is not, the literate from the illiterate, the possible from the probable? The answer is simple: One may wonder whether the members of that scarcely disciplined army -- which took part in the looting in April 1979 and which Tolbert distrusted enough to call for help from the soldiers of President Sekou Toure -- would still obey the orders of their officers when the "noncoms" have proved that they could act as they had intended.

The ambiguities of the "second liberation" of Liberia are far from gone. Minister of Planning Tipoteh, president of the Moja, and Minister of Justice Cheapoo, attorney for the PPP, clearly underlined this during their successive press conferences by their hesitation in defending the new regime. If it is indeed true that the military tribunal made up of five officers only ruled on the death penalties of 4 out of the 13 persons executed on

22 April -- and that it has reportedly threatened, since that time, to "give notice" -- then these ambiguities are far from being removed.

Will Staff Sgt Samuel Doe have been but Tolbert's gravedigger or, more durably, will he become the symbol of that revolt of African beggars that had been brewing for at least a year in Liberia? Two weeks after the coup d'etat, the question is already being asked. But the Liberian "revolution," with no other motive than to rid the country of a clique whose stranglehold had become intolerable, has still not divulged its secrets.

11,464
CSO: 4400

PEOPLE'S SUPREME TRIBUNAL ESTABLISHED

London WEST AFRICA in English 5 May 80 p 807

[Text]

Mr. Chea Cheapoo, Minister of/ Justice, announced the setting up of a People's Supreme Tribunal of seven judges appointed by the People's Redemption Council, whose continued tenure would depend on "good behaviour". There is no appeal to the decisions of the tribunal

Mr. Cheapoo also said some detainees would be released, but did not give a figure. "Other official sources" said about 400 people were involved. The Justice Minister [reportedly the adopted son of the former Justice Minister Chesson, who was executed last week] announced a list of about 100 people who face trial on charges of high treason. The list [on which figured the names of the 13 already executed] included former Cabinet Ministers, True Whig Party officials, senators and representatives, local administrators, True Whig Party officials, senators and representatives, local administrators, members of the judiciary and some heads of public corporations. There were also senior military officers including the former chief of staff and two generals, police officers and security personnel. They are all either in detention or at large.

Meanwhile it was reported that Mrs. Victoria Tolbert (the late President's widow) was still under house arrest

The Tribunal shall have seven judges appointed by the People's Redemption Council. The Tribunal will have the right of first hearing or regional jurisdiction over matters relating to foreign ambassadors or other foreign public ministers, according to ELWA radio monitored by the BBC. However, it will not have absolute jurisdiction over other cases except where the People's Redemption Council sees fit to decree an exception. All other powers, authority and jurisdiction of the suspended Supreme Court of Liberia shall be exercised by the People's Supreme Tribunal. Powers of the suspended Supreme Court which are in conflict with the provisions of any decree of the People's Redemption Council will not be exercised by the Supreme Tribunal

Foreign diplomats later sought clarification of the announcement that the Tribunal would have jurisdiction over matters affecting foreign ambassadors and other envoys. Agency reports are yet to indicate further clarification.

CSO: 4420

MOST SENIOR OFFICIALS REPORTEDLY RECONFIRMED

London WEST AFRICA in English 5 May 80 pp 807-808

[Text] Another agency reported that after a brief inquiry, the majority of senior officials and even Deputy Minister ..ad been reconfirmed in their old positions. Head of State, Master Sergeant Doe himself appointed the Former Minister of Lands and Mines as counsellor to his old ministry. "And sources [in Monrovia] firmly believe the same might happen to former Finance Minister, Mrs. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf," the report added.

It said strict banking restrictions were in force with cash withdrawals limited to $1,000 for individuals and $20,000 for companies. One European businessman said those companies which could give documented proof of need for more cash for continued operation could get a dispensation without great difficulty. He added that the authorities had kept in operation "...or business in which the ...ue Whig Party held large shares, ... a bid to maintain economic ...tivity before possible nationali... ...ns could be a reference to the Mesurado group of companies in which the late President and his family had big interests.

CSO: 4420

ALLEGED OVERSPENDING BY TOLBERT GOVERNMENT

London WEST AFRICA in English 5 May 80 p 807

[Text]

At an earlier news conference, Dr Tugba-Nah Tipoteh, Minister of Planning and Economic Affairs, said that on April 11, one day before the coup, the Tolbert Government had only $5m cash on hand. He said it had overspent to the tune of $1.5m and was owing foreigners nearly $700m. Dr Tipoteh said contrary to public understanding, there was only one week's supply of imported rice in Liberia whereas people felt there was three months' supply. Petrol supplies could only have lasted two weeks but people thought there was two months' supply. The Minister also revealed that the Tolbert Government had an annual budgetary allocation of $127,000 for retired Presidents of Liberia when there were nine. He said the economy was now running in one piece again and that life returned to normal a few days after the People's Redemption Council came to power. Instead of one week's supply of rice there was now two weeks' supply, and where there was two weeks' supply of petrol, there was now two months. Dr Tipoteh announced that payroll requirements had been met and that the emergency bank rules recently imposed would be lifted very soon.

The Head of State, Master Sgt. Doe, later assured the Liberian people that the price of rice and the cost of transport would be reduced soon. He said the People's Redemption Council was committed to improving the standard of living and alleviating the suffering of the Liberian people. He was addressing thousands of jubilant citizens, including market women and schoolchildren, who converged on the Executive Mansion grounds singing, dancing and waving palm branches in support of the People's Redemption Council, reported ELWA radio.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

PRC POLICY STATED--The Head of State, Master Sergeant Samuel Doe, has said the concern of the People's Redemption Council was not to disorganise the country but to see that the affairs of state were well managed. He said it was for this reason that the present government was composed of both civilian and military personnel. Addressing a group of concerned Christian women who presented him with an aide-memoire, Sergeant Doe stressed that he and the PRC did not believe in discrimination, and pointed out that the Minister of Public Works, Mr. Gabriel Tucker, had been permitted to participate in the PRC government because he had not taken part in the corruption of previous governments. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 19 May 80 p 902]

MILITARY TRIBUNAL RESUMES WORK--The five-man military tribunal set up to try officials of the Tolbert Administration ended a five-day break for administrative work last Monday. It has so far tried a total of 35 officials including the 13 who were executed. ELWA Radio reported that one of the most recent officials to appear before the tribunal was the former Deputy Minister of Planning and Economic Affairs, Mr. Samuel Green. He pleaded not guilty to charges of high treason, rampant corruption and misuse of public office. Mr. Green said the Liberian economy was flagrantly mismanaged and needed total restructuring. He said there was a marked level of indiscipline throughout the economy. Mr. Wilfrid Clarke, former Deputy Minister of National Security, also appeared before the tribunal. Pleading not guilty, he said he took an oath of office to protect the President of Liberia, an oath that was binding no matter who was president. This, he said, was why he reported to the People's Redemption Council when it came to power. Mr. Clarke said he was aware that the Liberian political structure had been monopolised to the exclusion of the vast majority of the Liberian people, and that the coup was therefore necessary to bring about change. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 19 May 80 p 902]

EXPEDITED TAX COLLECTION--Major Perry Zulu, Minister of Finance, has said the tax burden would not rest on the poor people alone. He said his ministry intends to vigorously enforce tax collection irrespective of the status of the taxpayer. Major Zulu also urged delinquent tax payers to make immediate settlement of their tax obligations. The names of such people would be

immediately forwarded to the Ministry of Justice for enforcement and collection. Major Zulu reaffirmed the confidence of the People's Redemption Council in Liberia's banking system. This followed reports that some businessmen were refusing cheque payments for goods and services and were demanding cash instead. In a news release from the Ministry of Finance, Major Zulu assured the public of the PRC's commitment to restoring normalcy as well as improving the general welfare of Liberians and residents. He said the Ministry would adopt the implement policies to increase productivity and employment and lessen the existing income inequality. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 19 May 80 p 902]

COURTS RECONSTITUTED--Mr. Chea Cheapoo, Minister of Justice, has announced that Liberia's courts have been reconstituted and were to begin normal operations immediately. Mr. Cheapoo told a news conference that the People's Redemption Council was convinced that no country could survive without law, order and justice. In an attempt to ensure that the Liberian people enjoyed their civil liberty and protection, the Minister said the PRC had therefore decided to reconstitute the courts. Under the new provisions, these would be known as People's Courts. The highest court--the People's Supreme Court--will comprise seven members who have already been appointed to replace the former Supreme Court. [Text [London WEST AFRICA in English 19 May 80 p 902]

ALIEN ARRESTS REPORTED--Three Dutch citizens and two British were reportedly under house arrest in Gbarnga. The Dutch people were a poultry expert, his wife, and an agricultural assistant working on a farm belonging to the late President Tolbert. The British Embassy identified the Britons as Mr Neville Moorhouse, manager of the farm, and Captain Hugh Kidd, manager of a rubber processing plant. The Embassy said Captain Kidd had been released. The Dutch Ambassador, Mr Vincet Bryns, told Reuters he had sought clarification from the Foreign Ministers, Mr Baccus Matthews, that the five people had been held at Barnga. The Minister reportedly said it was hearsay. Reuters added that "a Briton who travelled from Gbarnga said the house arrests occurred after a visit to the region by Mr Oscar Quiah, Minister of Local Government. [The Briton] said the Minister asked Europeans in the presence of Liberian workers how much they earned and the Liberians were angry..." at the amounts. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 5 May 80 p 808]

CHANGE MOTTO--A youth delegation has urged the Head of State to abolish the national motto--The Love of Liberty Brought Us Here--because it implied that all Liberians were descendents of slaves returned to Africa from the U.S. The delegation said the motto did not reflect the fact that they and their ancestors were born in Africa. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 5 May 80 p 808]

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA ON DOE--An official biography of the new Head of State said Master Sergeant Doe is from the Kranh ethnic group and was born in Tuzon, Grand Gedeh County on May 6, 1952. The biography reportedly said Sergeant Doe is not a socialist and not particularly a capitalist, "rather he is committed to the establishment of equal opportunities for all without discrimination." [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 5 May 80 p 808]

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO DECLARE ASSETS--The People's Redemption Council [PRC] has announced that all officials of the Liberian Government are to declare their assets before their appointments are confirmed by the council. The officials will also be required to face confirmation hearing prior to their appointment and commissioning by the head of state. This was announced today by the general coordinator of the People's Redemption Council, (Mr B. Cahn Color). Mr (Color) said government has taken the decision to lay a sound basis for the eradication of corruption from the Liberian society. He also disclosed that the speaker of the council, Brigadier General (Nicholas Podiah) has already informed the government officials concerned in order to abide by the policy. Meanwhile, confirmation hearings for government officials will start at the capitol building next week. (Mr Cahn Color) said the hearings were part of the (?move) for the appointment of government official but added that they were apparently never fully applied in the past. [Text] [AB282158 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 28 May 80]

CSO: 4420

VSM OFFICIAL'S ANALYSIS OF SITUATION REPORTED

Tananarive MADAGASCAR-MATIN in French 15 Apr 80 pp 1,2

[Text] Having analyzed the achievements and deficiencies in the party's reinforcement; having examined in depth the evolution of the national and international situation; and having made specific determinations on MONIMA's [socialist group] tasks with regard to the problems facing the Malagasy people and their struggle for national liberation, the MONIMA politburo, which held a special meeting at Antananarivo on 12 and 13 April, makes the following statement:

1. On the MONIMA party: the politburo elaborated the orders for all those in charge (members of the Central Committee, federal and sectional heads...) in order to consolidate the organization, widen the party bases, assurances of the building of socialism.

2. On international politics: the memorable speech given by the president of the Democratic Malagasy Republic in Havana corresponds to the resolutions of the first MONIMA congress, which declared that our present struggle was a struggle against imperialism.

The MONIMA confirms its firm support of that line

3. On the national situation: the principles outlined in the Red Book define the present stage as being that of the national democratic revolution, which must lead to socialism.

The MONIMA reaffirms its adherence with that analysis

But the fulfillment of that RND [national democratic revolution] presents deficiencies, causing hardships to people's everyday lives in the economic, social and political spheres.

a) economic:

--Equipment: tractors to be used in production serve as refuse hoppers, coal transport trucks, in some fivondronana and even in others, they are

used to carry brushwood. In any event, the rental of the tractors is so expensive that it is beyond the financial capability of the little man (17,000 FMG [Malagasy franc]/hectare).

b) on the social plane:

--The safety of the popular masses has not been sufficiently provided for: dahalo, assassinations, robberies...

Because of that, they cannot devote themselves seriously to the task of production.

--The health service discriminates between working classes and poor peasants. Medicine is very expensive and there are not enough attending personnel, especially in the country.

--"Baksheesh" [bribery] and corruption are tending to become the rule in many service organizations, especially public service, and the oppressed classes are bearing the brunt of it.

--The activity and maneuvers of foreign and domestic capitalists, through the improper dismissal of workers, is increasing the number of unemployed. These dismissals particularly affect union workers.

c) on the political plane:

--A number of those elected from the decentralized collectives are digressing from the tasks with which the people have entrusted them. This facilitates the undermining activities of the imperialists and their allies who are bent upon sowing confusion. That situation stems, on one hand, from a lack of political maturity and, on the other hand, from an absence of political cadre formation being felt at all levels.

This state of affairs is discrediting socialist ideology in the eyes of the people.

Solution

The MONIMA Politburo feels that there is only one solution which will allow the oppressed classes to become organized in order to correct mistakes and protect the present "regime."

"Conditions must be created which will allow the National Front, for the defense of the revolution, to play the role with which the nation has entrusted it and which is defined in the constitution."

"Fitovian-Tsaranga Notanjona."

On behalf of the MONIMA Politburo, national head of MONIMA, Secretary Jaona Remanindry, and organizational head, Secretary Pierre Todiarivo.

9475
CSO: 4400

MINISTER OUTLINES UNIVERSITY'S REVOLUTIONARY ROLE

Tananarive MADAGASCAR-MATIN in French 18 Apr 80 p 2

[Part II of two part series]

[Text] The opening of the university will thus take place during April, and not March or even October, as rumor would have it. Moreover, on that subject, Minister Rakoto Ignace (Higher Education and Scientific Research), who announced the news over our colleague, Marius Rasoanaivo's mike during a radio-TV interview, declared that it was possible we might gradually return to the old system by which the opening of the university took place in October. But we have not reached that point yet.

The second round of Minister Rakoto Ignace's interview, the first part of which we published yesterday, concerns the teaching restructuring presently underway. Before getting to that, it is appropriate to emphasize the minister's satisfaction with the current teaching personnel situation at the higher levels. In yesterday's edition, we cited the ever-increasing number of "permanent" professors in the island's various university centers. It must also be known that, for that to happen, 25 professors who were trained in France, as well as about 10 who completed their studies in socialist countries, agreed to return to their country. On the other hand, the department locally recruited about 50 new professors. Foreign technical assistance in this field is continuing: from the French, Swiss, Soviets, West and East Germans, etc.

One point in particular in Minister Rakoto Ignace's interview is also worthy of mention. It concerns the famous law 78040 providing for the correlation between higher education and national economic conditions. In light of the figures cited by us yesterday for the number of students from one year to another, a rate of increase on the order of 50 percent has been established. At this rate, the minister predicted that there would be 500,000 students in Madagascar by the year 2000. "If the economy," he said, "does not follow this increase, it will be catastrophic. Market sales will be insufficient. We can count on cadres being out of work or under-employed." For his ministry, this "law 78040" thus constitutes a real

barometer, or better, to use his own term, a "control panel" in determining the country's needs for specialists, not only by the year 2000 but every year.

All that, we suspect, involves a complex and costly task. The minister announced the opening in the near future of a certain number of standard schools for the training of high school teachers at Antananarivo, Fianarantsoa and Toliara. Again to illustrate the country's efforts to agree, he spoke of the statute of the Dental School of Mahajanga which presently trains doctors of dental surgery after 5 years of study.

Mr Rakoto Ignace quoted some figures to show the cost of running the same kind of institution. At the time of this writing, it has the same type of equipment, whose unit cost is around 200 million FMG [Malagasy franc]. Let us be clear that we are not talking about the equipment of the whole school, but only a certain kind of equipment, and the whole school needs 90 of them. According to calculations made by the Department, a student at the end of his training needs equipment costing on the order of 25 million FMG in order to function properly. At that rate, we can understand that such an operation is enough by itself to consume the national budget of the Ministry of Public Health.

Another kind of problem has also been raised by Minister Rakoto Ignace. From now on, his department will refuse the "waste products" of the first year. Thus, they will not double that amount, let alone triple it. Let it be noted on that subject that out of the university's present enrollment, 70 percent are in their first year. Thus it involves not only, as one might think, the new bachelors, but also the repeaters; "No," the minister said explicitly, "the young people must realize if they have chosen a bad course: they will have to do something else."

On the question of whether the university is "ready or not" for this 1980 school opening, the minister appeared to be a little more frank. He did not conceal the problems which his ministry has (and will have) to face and which, moreover, are the basis of the present delay in the opening of the university. That delay is mainly due to the construction of new receiving infrastructures, in a work, the CUR [expansion unknown].

"But by getting ourselves ready," said the minister, "we will pull ourselves out of it." He cited the example of what is being done in Toliara and Antsiranana where, while waiting for new facilities to be completed, the students and professors agreed to go elsewhere to work. At Antananarivo, he gave the example of student housing: only 700 places out of 3000 requests for housing for the first term can be reserved for the new Ambohipo and Ankorondrano facilities. Of course, as with scholarships, the 3000 in question will not all be satisfied. The same is true for the "amphis", two new prefab "amphis" with 250 rooms each have been completed. But even if you use the different "amphis" on campus, you would still be off

count. That is the reason for renovating movie theatres like the Rex, Roxy or Soa (lighting, temperature) for use while waiting for the other amphitheatres to be completed.

Concluding his interview, Minister Rakoto Ignace invited the students to prove their "sacrifice and discipline." What could be more natural also when you think of the 30 billion FMG that the whole nation has agreed to invest in this "CUR" operation alone. "I am sure," the minister said, "that the bachelors who have completed their service to the country and who will be entering the university this year will have understood the sacrifices which the people have agreed to make for them. I hope that they are aware that a significant number of their compatriots are living in misery so that they can pursue their studies in comfort." Therefore, this demands from those involved a minimum of appreciation in order to be worthy of the enormous sacrifices which the entire country is making for them.

9475
CSO: 4400

BANDA REPORTED SHORING UP SAGGING ECONOMY

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 27 May 80 p 11

[Text]

SKIRTING the fringe of the political whirlwind that has swept Southern Africa recently and seemingly aloof from its power struggles, Dr Kamuzu Banda's Malawi faces its sternest challenge in 16 years of independence.

Behind the censorship and coolness to foreign news media which up to now have largely shielded events in his country from outside observers, the 74-year-old President has been moving swiftly and decisively to forestall a growing economic crisis.

The former London medical doctor has knifed through the country's civil service structure with surgeon-like precision, bringing in wholesale changes in the leadership of statutory bodies. He has also applied a package of monetary measures as a short-term remedy to suture up the country's creaking economy.

For while Malawi's 5,8 million people live in an atmosphere of political calm which make the state among the most stable in Africa, they are now feeling the pinch from economic factors over which landlocked Malawi has no control.

In a word, the problem is oil. Or rather the cost of it. In common with other non-oil producing countries in Africa, Malawi has been dumped with a massive imported inflation because of soaring fuel costs and its chain effect on the price of foreign imported goods.

This has been aggravated by plunging prices on world markets for its main export, tobacco — 35 percent down on average for top tobaccos on last year's prices — and lower prices for its second main export tea (the two bring in about 60 percent of Malawi's foreign exchange).

MODEL

The consequent strain on foreign reserves sent the first ripples of apprehension through an economy which until only a year ago was viewed by the World Bank as a model for the rest of Africa.

Malawi is a verdant, fertile land which impresses the casual visitor by the way this natural asset is put to use. Hardly an arable hectare goes to waste in producing crops.

Malawi actually boosted its crop exports last year by more than 20 percent to a record $158 million.

But the balance of trade deficit still rose by about $9,3 million because of the rise in the cost and volume of imports. The growth of imports was more than could be made good from price gains on major export crops such as tobacco, sugar and groundnuts.

Foreign reserves dropped by nearly $3 million last year, according to figures tabled in the Malawi Parliament — although some independent economists put the figure as high as between $15 and $22,75 million.

Although no official statistics are available, inflation is currently estimated by economists to be running at 18 percent and rising.

Malawi's Reserve Bank believes a more realistic estimate is around 11 percent.

But this is still above the single-figure inflation rate with which Malawi managed to peg the cost of living in the seventies by stabilising the price of basic commodities — maize, cooking oil, soap. Thus 70 percent of Malawi's mainly agrarian population escaped the effects of world inflation. But as Dr Banda told Parliament a few weeks ago: "It has definitely caught up with us now."

BLEW UP

Events moved to a head late last year when Malawi's fuel supplies through the Mozambican port of Beira were cut off for nearly three months when anti-Frelimo dissidents blew up a vital rail bridge inside Mozambique.

For the best part of the dry season, Malawi industry all but came to a standstill as vital development projects ground to a halt and fuel had to be flown in by emergency airlift from neighbouring countries.

The disruption and delays pushed up further the cost of prestige projects such as the new international airport outside the new capital Lilongwe, conservatively estimated at about $64 million.

Snarl-ups at Mozambican ports of Beira and Nacala added to Malawi's woes by increasing the cost of imported raw materials.

FAILURE

The overall position was worsened by a drought which led to the total failure of the maize crop in some parts of the southern region.

Against this background, there were rumblings about the squandering of funds by statutory bodies.

This prompted a warning in Parliament to executives from Dr Banda himself that "whether or not they keep their jobs depends on their performance". A number of them, charged the President, were "careless and wasteful" with money and were spending unnecessarily.

Predictably, Dr Banda pulled no half-measures when remedial action came.

In a blitz on statutory bodies, out went top executives in Air Malawi, Malawi Railways and the Malawi Development Corporation, including two long-serving white expatriates.

There was a staff reshuffle in other civil service bodies including the country's Export Promotion Council and the Malawi Broadcasting Corporation.

Government sources say there are plans now to bring in "professionals", some of them serving in banking institutions abroad and in the diplomatic corps, to bring a much-needed infusion of new blood.

Air Malawi dropped its international flights to Europe and the Government is believed to have opted out of negotiations to buy a Boeing 747 from a foreign country.

CUT-BACK

All this was preceded by emergency measures, substantial restraint on credit, an increase in the bank rate lending and deposit rates of commercial banks and financial institutions and cut-back on overdrafts.

Dr Banda himself quashed nervous speculation about his own health by his first public appearance for some weeks earlier this month at a youth rally at Blantyre's Kamuzu Stadium.

He had been in mourning for several weeks following the death of his sister.

Diplomats believe rumours that he left the country earlier this year for a medical check-up abroad are unfounded.

It is thought the rumours may have started in South Africa when a Malawi medical team came "shopping" in the Republic for equipment for a planned new intensive care unit and ambulance to be used in emergencies involving Malawi VIPs.

UNASSAILALE

Certainly Dr Banda's own position seems as unassailable as it has always been. Diplomats discount any tangible threat from the Mozambique-based exile movement Lesoma (Socialist league of Malawi). The number of political detainees in Malawi today is said to be as low as 30 — compared to 2 000 some years ago.

The economic reform measures, the streamlining of the civil service, the slowing down of government spending and the visible proof that Dr Banda is still at the helm have all tended to renew confidence after the flutter of nervousness in international monetary circles.

CSO: 4420

UDPM OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED ON RELATIONS WITH USSR

Bamako L'ESSOR in French 23 Apr 80 p 3

[Interview with Sori Coulibaly, political secretary of the UDPM's central executive bureau; Bamako; 22 April 1980]

> [Excerpt] The 110th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir Il'ich Lenin was the occasion for various events in Mali: A cultural evening, the projection of films, and a photograph exhibit. On the occasion of this remarkable happening Sori Coulibaly, political secretary of the central executive bureau, granted to the TASS news agency an interview in which he recalled the historic role of the founder of the first socialist state in the world.

Question: Comrade political secretary, how do you assay the existing relations between the USSR and the Republic of Mali and the development of ties between our two parties, the CPSU [Communist Party of the Soviet Union] and the UDPM [Democratic Union of Malian People]?

Answer: I can say and without any risk of error that the existing relations between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Mali are excellent and we are gratified because of that.

These relations of friendship and cooperation dating from our country's accession to independence have developed and improved steadily. Today they are witnessing renewed vitality in all fields, especially the political, technical, economic, social, and cultural fields. The participation of a high-level delegation of the CPSU at the constituent congress of the UDPM and the recent visit that I had the honor and pleasure of making in the Soviet Union at the head of an important delegation including members of our party's national executive prove, if there were still need for it, the soundness of the ties between the CPSU and the UDPM.

I am convinced that these ties will continue to develop and become stronger in the interest of the Soviet and Malian peoples.

2662
CSO: 4400

FOREIGN MEDIA, HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION TERMED DETRACTORS

Bamako L'ESSOR in French 9 Apr 80 p 6

[Article: "To Make the Party More Dynamic, To Expand Participation"]

[Excerpts] The national council [of the UDPM--Democratic Union of Malian People] has been meeting since Tuesday, 8 April 1980, at 1600 hours in Bamako. These meetings which mark the first anniversary of the party's existence have capital importance.

If we had to make an assessment we would say that the party is becoming ensconced. It has set up all its component organs. It must now draw the lessons of this past year and become more dynamic. So far more than 2 and 1/2 million Malians have obtained their party membership cards and optimism is warranted because these convinced activists are now ready to struggle to have the cause of the UDPM triumph.

We have just passed through a difficult period.

Some individuals saw this as a good opportunity to fabricate the most alarming rumors, to make the most harmful comments in our regard. It is rare for a propaganda campaign to have been waged with so much ferocity and hate.

Thus, a so-called "humanitarian" organization thought that it had found in the situation existing in our country an unhoped-for opportunity to serve its masters, that is, imperialism and neocolonialism. This organization, which some unfamiliar with it believed to be serious, slandered our country, our institutions, and our traditional values. It became a past master of propaganda and the spreading of false rumors. It became a laughing stock before the entire world when on 29 March 1980 the truth emerged in broad daylight following the clarification and historic decisions relating to the pardon granted by the Malian president, secretary general of the UDPM. This "humanitarian" organization as is known is being zealous only outside its [home] continent and preferably in Africa to prepare there the intervention of its masters and to make possible the "recuperation" of those "Negro" republics which are committing the unacceptable

and unforgivable crime of securing their destinies without an outside protective Cesar, without a historic and cultural complex. At any rate, the honest Malians now know what the score is as regards the worth of the news disseminated by this organization.

In any case, the foreign media which have hastened to orchestrate the allegations of this organization and to serve it as a relay will now know what to go by as regards the news that it propagates.

Thus, an impostor whose intellectual dishonesty is well known, an enemy of Africa and Africans, who claims to be a newsman specialized in "Africanology," was unfortunately able in the columns of the very serious newspaper LE MONDE to give vent to his insane and highly limited imagination to spread nonsense and everything that could tarnish the image of Mali abroad. Too bad for him, for since 1960 that journalist has not failed on a single occasion to slander our country which has always received him warmly. But each time truth has triumphed over his lies and his ill-intentions.

Thus, the head of a major overseas party has outrageously interfered in our domestic affairs by chairing his "human rights committee" to voice abuse against our people and our institutions. This gentleman who is now in his country for the reasons that are known could perhaps think of putting his own house in order before becoming involved with the house of someone else. At any rate, in the realm of good manners and patriotism he has nothing to teach us. Because of his lack of lucidity and his irresponsibility, this paternalistic individual of times past has added his voice to that of the lackeys of imperialism and neocolonialism.

We remind all these detractors of our country that a news item worthy of that name must be based on respect for the truth. But what we know too and which is fundamental is that Mali and its leaders are not always innocent vis-a-vis the authors of such nonsense.

We know that Moussa Traore, president of Mali and secretary general of the UDPM, by virtue of his wisdom, the sound position that he has acquired among his African peers and on the international scene, his courage to defend everywhere and always the interests of Africa, and his refusal to accept our country's subjugation by anyone, is frustrating to people like this.

The truth, the philosopher had said, belongs to those who seek it and not to those who claim to have found it.

Mali unquestionably has difficulties, but who does not? Our difficulties are linked to our geopolitical position, as we are aware. Please, don't try to tarnish the moral code of our people at any cost. Let us inform but not deform.

However, one thing is certain--the country will not give way before slander and will be able, through its own millennial genius, to solve its difficulties and find solutions to its problems.

In short, it is in an atmosphere of calm and serenity that the meetings of the national council of the UDPM are being held. With truth helping they will be guided by the concern and necessity to reinforce national confidence. We shall find Malian solutions to Malian problems.

2662
CSO: 4400

FOREIGN PRESS DENIGRATION VEHEMENTLY REFUTED

Bamako L'ESSOR in French 21 Apr 80 p 1

[Editorial: "Because We Wish To Be Ourselves"]

[Text] For some time now an all-round press campaign has been orchestrated against Ma... European, pseudo-African, and African newspapers have attacked us publicly for the obvious reason of destabilizing our country. Some have not hesitated to agitate for a "coup d'etat," as for instance that European daily which concluded its article by predicting a violent turn of events shortly, a "logical" consequence, according to it, of the advanced deterioration of the situation. Why this concern to wish to see things changed as they see it instead of as the Malians see it? The answer is simple: Mali is not a docile country which has agreed to bite the dust and answer "yes, master." Some individuals thus wish to take advantage of a state of temporary social crisis to get even with it. Now, simultaneously with economic pressures a press campaign has been launched (all expenses paid) to strive to enhance, support, and promote either a revolt or passive acceptance by Mali of what could be hatched abroad.

What arguments are being used in this campaign which has the aspect of a relay race whose participants share their teams? Social, economic, and political arguments which are disguised at will so as to deceive international opinion which, unable to come and see things on the spot, is unquestionably obliged to go by what these media, in which it places its trust, say.

Mali has never denied having problems and it is the first to admit it. Any country has some and it is even the solution of problems cropping up at any point which moves a country toward progress. Mali has never denied having even major problems: Its production system essentially based on agriculture and livestock-raising, its geographic location as a continental and Saharan country, its lack of exploited resources from the subsoil, its lack of technology and the shortage of its capital explain more than necessary the complexity of Mali's problems.

But strong in the feeling of pride and dignity of its people, strong with the memory of its millennary history, strong with the slogan in its national anthem which says "better death than shame," Mali has strived to solve to the satisfaction of Malians the problems that it has faced. And it is this strictly Malian endeavor that is being held against us.

We say as we have always said "Yes, we have problems, we even have critical problems, but the scope of the task does not in any way make us lower our defenses, in no way prompts us to go and seek thought leaders abroad, does not mandate us to seek tutors and lords. We accept that some should advise us but only and exclusively in a spirit of equality and in a relationship of mutual respect."

It will be recalled that the press campaign began with a few trills: We were accused of maintaining a pocket of noninformation on our problems. Then, someone brought out the heavy artillery concerning our economic problems for which miracle solutions were offered. Finally, the trumpet of virtuous indignation was sounded about our political system.

From comments about agitation in our schools the criticism shifted to our social and economic crisis where an effort was made to represent all the Malian cadres as liars and assurances were given that tons of bank notes were being drained into the leaky barrel which Mali represents without any positive effect. We were told to close down all state firms and enterprises which are supposed to be budget-eating monsters. From that point it is easy to understand where these critics are driving and why they want to get there.

Let us merely remind these detractors that for us Malians news is first a national affair with an educational and cultural purpose and is not secured by means of scoops and sensationalism.

At other times we have had to say that Malians before all others and without a more acute challenge, knowing their problems, discuss their problems, seek solutions to their problems without concealing or veiling anything.

We regret that during these difficult hours, when the nation needed courage and the intelligence of all its sons to surmount the obstacle imposed on us by events, there was a group of dishonest men in our country disseminating the most insidious rumors and striving to fuel the most damaging passions.

History teaches us that more dangerous than the blows dealt from the outside are the maneuvers perpetrated by the traitors of the interior. Let us recall that it is the felony of renegades which caused the suicide of Mr Babemba and which made possible the arrest of Mr Samory.

But the activity of these individuals does not find any echo among our working masses.

Any objective observer need only refer to the meeting of the national council of the UDPM [Democratic Union of Malian People] which began on 8 April 1980 where the broadest-ranging discussions, the most open ones were engaged on all aspects of our national life and development. And the national council decided, considering the extent of our economic problems, to devote an exclusive session to them and to call a special party congress to unravel the complexity of our political problems, and invited the party to open its doors wide to all genuine patriots whether they live at home or have settled outside our borders.

Indeed, the party does not exclude either dialog or a diversity of opinions and once more calls on all the cadres of the nation so that the UDPM may be the natural framework of their contribution to nation-building.

A political regime is all the more viable as it approves and favors free expression in an organized whole. This opening undoubtedly constitutes an impregnable rampart against the designs of the enemies of our people.

It is without complex that we say loud and clear that the high opinion that Mali holds of itself serves as a basis for our serenity before the adversity of the moment for we are sure to transcend it.

Even though this may displease those who wanted to hide our dignity under a bushel, we shall continue to hold high the torch of real independence, defense of justice, solidarity with all people taken with peace and equity against all oppression, the torch of dynamic and intransigent nonalinement.

Even though it may displease those nostalgic for a paternalistic Africa we shall continue to forge the destiny of our continent along a path of real sovereignty premised on our material and moral resources with all our African brothers really proud to be the sons of a free and united Africa.

2662
CSO: 4400

UDPM NATIONAL COUNCIL ON STATE ENTERPRISES, PARTY DEFICIENCIES

Bamako L'ESSOR in French 12-13 Apr 80 pp 1, 4, 6

[Excerpts] The first ordinary meeting of the national council of the UDPM [Democratic Union of Malian People] was officially opened on Tuesday at 1630 hours in the conference hall of the People's House by Gen Moussa Traore, president of Mali and secretary general of the UDPM.

The national council heard the activities report of the party's secretary general the first section of which is reproduced below:

"Comrades, members of the national council,

"A year ago we became involved in an act of faith by creating the Democratic Union of Malian People. The establishment of the UDPM indeed evidences our faith in our country's future, our faith in the genius and capabilities of our people to build a national democratic government premised on solidarity, justice, and work in a world constantly subjected here and there to the assaults of the contradictions born of the evolution of various modern societies and relations among states.

"The Democratic Union of Malian People was formed a year ago. Admittedly, it is still fragile, but it has the merit of existing and the resolve to assert itself more every day.

"A year is perhaps not enough to present an impressive survey but it nevertheless constitutes sufficient time to assess what has been accomplished compared to the 'ancien regime,' to better perceive the weaknesses of the organization and grasp more accurately what must be done."

"1. Improvement of the Public Sector

"While opting for an independent and planned national economy including a public sector, a mixed sector, and a private sector, the party congress stressed particularly the need to improve the public sector. The search for ways and means making it possible to realize this improvement while defending the interests of the workers and the state continues to be a

major concern for the party and government by virtue of the dimensions and social role that the public sector holds in Mali's national economy.

"It is to this end that the Ministry of State Firms and Enterprises has drafted 3-year rehabilitation plans which were examined by a joint meeting of the central executive bureau and the government.

"The underlying scheme of these plans is to have the state firms and enterprises achieve at least balanced exploitation, reduce their debt level and credits, and enjoy sound and firm administration.

"At the conclusion of the joint meeting measures were taken tending to improve the national economic environment and protect state firms and enterprises. Among other things it was decided to maintain, even reinforce, the presence of the government in the large and/or strategic companies (SOMIEX [Malian Import and Export Company], Air Mali, SONATAM [expansion unknown], COMATEX [Malian Textiles Company]), to open up capital participation in companies operating in nonstrategic sectors and whose improvement calls for financial investment beyond the present means of the government or to experiment with self-management in others (TAMALI, SEPOM, SOMBEPEC, CMTR [Malian Road Transport Company], and EMAB).

"However, to enable the government to endow itself with the means for an economic and social policy, the defense of the public sector proves to be indispensable independently of internal improvements.

"Consequently, to avoid losing sight of the evolution of state firms and enterprises more vigorous oversight, followup, and control of the activity of these companies should be exercised by the Ministry of State Firms and Enterprises so as to inform the government and party more accurately on the evolution of state firms and enterprises while reinforcing the authority and thus the responsibility of the general managers.

"This means that the party will pay constantly greater attention to the improvement of the public sector in accordance with the resolution of the congress."

"Context and Conditions for the Establishment of the Party's Structures

"It is appropriate to recall that the 10 years Mali had no political organization. During this period the peoples and especially the cadres got used to individualistic, let us say even egoistic, habits. Everyone was looking out for his personal interests and the problems of the state were considered as the exclusive business of the members of the CMLN [Military National Liberation Committee] and the government. Makeshift and interference became ensconced nearly everywhere. It is in this context of extended political demobilization, of suspicion among cadres, of individualism and interference that the party was born. It is appropriate to note, too, that in 1978, at the time when the cells of the UDPM were set up, many

of the cadres did not believe in a return to constitutional life in Mali and considered as utopian, even impossible, the establishment of the Democratic Union of Malian People under the aegis of the army whose members were the only advocates. All these facts prompted many cadres not to take an interest in the party at the start.

"The party having now become a living reality and the aspiration of the people to democracy having asserted itself unequivocally, it is henceforth appropriate to proceed to a critical analysis of the situation and to look beyond all the negative factors that I have just enumerated.

"It is necessary to do away with all the misunderstandings and complexes among those who first came to the party and those who joined it or will join it subsequently. Whether they are old-timers or newcomers, the most competent cadres must be placed in positions of party and government responsibility by using exclusively as criteria political commitment and competence.

"Another cause of weakness and difficulties which represent an obstacle to the party's development is the authoritarianism and sectarianism of some political as well as administrative leaders. Indeed, political leaders often seek to absolutely impose their viewpoints during meetings of the party committees, sections, and subsections. The activists who express contrary opinions are accused of being against the party. Such practices do not make it possible to develop confrontation of ideas and measures during meetings: Rather, they keep some cadres away from the party. That is dangerous and dooms the party to mediocrity and stagnation in the long run.

"This problem prompts me to speak of another weakness of the party, namely, some cases of bad relations between the political and administrative realms. This for me is an opportunity to recall that in a single-party system such as ours the party and the government are complementary. Political leaders and administrative heads must work in perfect symbiosis.

"Another cause of the difficulties and weaknesses of the party is the apathy, even the lack of commitment of the cadres and activists who expect everything from the party's leadership. No initiative is taken at the grass roots for the training of activists.

"The party's program being clearly identified, its major orientations well defined, it behooves the cadres in the base organizations to hold meetings, conferences, and general assemblies to publicize their program and the major orientations of the party in the various fields of national activity, to inform and sensitize people on the national problems which are pressing, to speak of the country, of its development plan, of the projects pertaining to a given region, and so on. Such conferences are necessary for the consciousness-raising of the people and their conscious participation in the country's development.

"Comrades, members of the national council,

"By way of conclusion I invite you to give serious thought to the weaknesses of the party which I have brought to your attention. But I particularly ask you to deploy your sustained efforts to reinforce the party and make it more dynamic. The student unrest that our country witnessed beginning on 16 November 1979 dramatically evidenced the party's weaknesses, I was going to say the relinquishing of responsibility by some political cadres. And this for me is the occasion to sensitize you once again about the terms of the declaration that I made on Saturday, 29 March 1980, during the informational meeting held at the All-Sports Stadium.

"I invite you forthwith and insistently to give evidence of initiative and political commitment under all circumstances for, as I have already said, 'A party which is unable to defend itself cannot survive.' Accordingly, this is the time for action, for concrete action.

"Long live the Democratic Union of Malian People so that the republic may live."

2662
CSO: 4400

MINISTER AFFIRMS STATE ENTERPRISES HERE TO STAY

Bamako L'ESSOR in French 29 Apr 80 p 3

[Article: "State Companies Will Never Be Scrapped"]

[Excerpt] Starting yesterday, Monday, Abdoulaye Amadou Sy, minister of state firms and enterprises, undertook with his advisers a series of direct contacts with the cadres and workers of our industrial units. These contacts met two major goals, Abdoulaye Amadou Sy told the cadres of SMECMA [Malian Company for the Study and Construction of Agricultural Equipment]: Know your problems better to grasp them better, and answer the imperatives mandated by the situation. The minister then continued:

"You all know that for some time now a press campaign, persistent and insidious, has been directing its attacks against our state firms and enterprises, our institutions and our regime.

The instigators of this campaign, those individuals nostalgic for a slave economy, have taken to task our system of state companies. They mobilize and manipulate the mass media by orienting them to well-defined goals.

For them the system of state firms and enterprises is a plot which would be profitable only to the government while the companies allegedly are only burdens on the people from which they would do well to free themselves as quickly as possible. Thus, they reach the point of painting a gloomy picture undermining the real situation of the state companies and make demoralizing reports.

This plot, it is seen, is directed more against the party and the government which have on several occasions reasserted the people's confidence in the system of state companies, a system compatible with better social justice in Mali and with our country's realities.

The manipulators of the press who, unfortunately, include among their ranks Malians who, achieving the paradox of helping other countries and professing high-level capitalism from within, wish to make the workers believe that the government is abandoning state firms and enterprises.

This is far from being justified at a time when an initial effort has been made to inventory the real problems of these companies and to implement realistic rehabilitation plans.

These plans elaborated thanks to the joint efforts of the workers of state firms and enterprises and the administrators and cadres of the Ministry of State Firms and Enterprises were approved only at the conclusion of a detailed and exhaustive analysis. Nothing has been left out. All the difficulties were underscored and courageously made known to the people.

These efforts which have found distinct echoes among our neighbors have been punctuated by decisions of the central executive bureau [of the UDPM--Democratic Union of Malian People] and the government.

There has never been a question of liquidation of the state firms or of selling them down the river--quite the opposite. The recommended opening up in the capital participation of some companies does not mean, as some tried to have it believed, the liquidation of state firms and enterprises. This measure stems from the decisions taken at the time of the constituent congress of the UDPM, namely, the coexistence of a public sector, a mixed sector, and a private sector.

Too, at the risk of repetition I say that the state companies will never be liquidated and those who believe the opposite of this assertion are very much mistaken.

Comrade workers, in our country where the peasantry represents 92 percent of our economically active population your enterprise occupies a choice place. It is part of the category of so-called strategic enterprises.

From 1974 to 1979 SMECMA's capital increased from 60 to 350 million Malian francs while its sales jumped from 500 million to 2.8 billion Malian francs and its profits rose from 13 million to 100 million Malian francs.

These results attest to the quality of your work and the vitality of your enterprise.

That is why the party and the government congratulate you for it and urge you to persevere in your endeavors.

Similarly, I exhort you to increase your efforts in the interest of our country's development and to remain united in the face of adversity."

2662
CSO: 4400

CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER CONGRATULATES MOZAMBIQUE COUNTERPART ON AFRICA DAY

LD251626 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 25 May 80 EA

[Text] The minister of foreign relations of the Republic of Cuba has congratulated Mozambique's foreign minister on the 17th anniversary of Africa Day and the foundation of the OAU.

Isidoro Malmierca's message said: This day represents in particular an appeal to the unity of peoples and governments of the continent at a time when the common enemy of the peoples is a revival of the cold war and attempts to divide the continent.

It went on to say: The victory of the people of Zimbabwe has been a hard blow to its enemies. The brother people and Government of Mozambique greatly cherished the struggle of the people of Zimbabwe. This victory, dear and esteemed comrade minister, Isidoro Malmierca told our foreign minister in his message, is a source of pride to us and fills us with jubilation.

The Cuban foreign relations minister stressed that our two peoples, who are fighting the hard battle against (?backwardness), have become even stronger as a result of their energetic common efforts, particularly those made in the nonalined movement for unity and the right to total independence and freedom.

CSO: 4401

BRIEFS

SWAPO: TWO PLANES DOWNED--Dar-es-Salaam (Agencies--Two South African air force jet fighters were shot down and more than 110 troops killed in operations carried out last month by the People's Liberation Army of Namibia, the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) office in Tanzania reported Tuesday. It said the nationalists had wounded several hundred Pretoria troops and captured a large cache of arms in northern Namibia. The nationalists are strengthening their control of liberated zones in north-eastern and north-western Namibia, SWAPO said. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 15 May 80 p 1]

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

EEC-FINANCED ROAD OPENED--A tarred road from Niamey to Zinder along the border with Nigeria and linking the districts of Zinder, Dosso and Maradi has been officially opened. The 902 kms road took 13 years to build. The total cost of the project, some $85m. was met by the EEC Development Fund. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 19 May 80 p 903]

CSO: 4420

SENGHOR DISCUSSES FOREIGN INTERVENTION IN AFRICA

Paris LE FIGARO MAGAZINE in French 10 May 80 pp 88-93

[Interview with Senegal president Leopold Senghor conducted by special correspondent Jean Dekersat: "Black Africa, Yes; Red Africa, No"]

> [Text] The Franco-African Summit Meeting, held in Nice, was concluded yesterday. The president of Senegal shared with FIGARO-MAGAZINE his analysis of the threats weighing on Africa. He also wanted to answer, in our newspaper, the attacks mounted against his country by the progressive press in general and LE MONDE in particular.

Jean Dekersat: Mr President, recently Senegal was the target of some attacks in the French and, specifically, in a big daily. Some aspects of its domestic policy and some of its practices which hinder its development were virulently attacked. What do you thin' about this attitude and how do you interpret these views?

Leopold Sedar Senghor: The attacks recently mounted against Senegal go beyond Senegal itself. Leaders such as President Bongo or President Houphouet-Boigny were also attacked by the international press. It is striking to note that on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of African independences, the specialized journalists have insisted on bearing down on us, emphasizing our errors and insufficiencies without mentioning our efforts and successes. It is even more striking that, having failed to find in the statistics of international organizations and the World Bank decisive arguments, these same statistics have been manipulated. Here is a significant example: In 1978 a British member of the labor party wrote an article in LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE to prove that Senegalese socialism was not an efficient socialism and was merely make-believe. This poor British laborist had simply taken the wrong independence: He was citing 1959 rather than 1978 statistics. He accused us of being a country in which 85 percent of all investments were French. This was true in 1959. It was no longer true in 1978, when they accounted for no more than 50-55 percent.

This press, generally speaking, is not very hard toward the Marxist-Leninist countries, all of which, without exception, among the French-speaking ones, have seen their economy stagnate or decline as a result of helter-skelter nationalization. This press prefers to attack the democratic socialist countries such as Tunisia, Senegal, Morocco, etc. As far as Senegal is concerned, it does not forgive the Negroes, which we are, of having no complexes. It does not forgive the Negroes, which we are, for wanting to think and act by themselves and for themselves.

In the 16 April issue of LE MONDE, Pierre Biarnes claims that the World Bank considers Senegal one of the three lowest countries economically. I would ask him to look at the 1977 World Bank statistics which show that, in terms of per capita income, we were third among the countries south of the Sahara.

In 1960, immediately after gaining our independence, we had a per capita income of $160. Last year, in 1979, we had reached $450. Furthermore, we had tripled the number of paid jobs.

[Question] At the Kigali conference, in May 1979, you submitted a plan for a joint organization by French-speaking countries. The establishment of a general secretariat was suggested and a political aspect was given to this organization through the suggestion that the secretary general would be a politician. What do you think of this suggestion?

[Answer] The future joint organization will be both political and cultural. It is natural for the secretary general of a federation to be a politician in the highest meaning of the term.

[Question] Also in Kigali, President Giscard d'Estaing suggested that the office of the secretary general be in Paris and have the executive functions of coordination and promotion. What feelings has this suggestion triggered in African countries and in yourself?

[Answer] While discussing the idea of a French-speaking community, we have frequently explicitly referred to the Commonwealth, and we have borrowed from the Commonwealth its positive aspects. The secretary general of the Commonwealth is a politician, and the secretary is in London. That is the reason for which it is natural that the secretariat of the future joint organization--the name could be changed--be in Paris.

[Question] Do you consider that, currently, work done on such a federation is satisfactory, and is positive progress being made?

[Answer] To be able to answer this question we must, first of all, make a brief historical review. At the 1978 Franco-African Paris Conference I had suggested that the 1979 conference consider a plan for a French-speaking community. I was entrusted with writing the report. Last year, at the Kigali conference, I submitted a report which was accepted unanimously.

Since then, between July and November 1979, I have written to some 40 chiefs of state and I have begun to receive answers. So far I have not received a negative one.

It is understood that a conference of ministers of foreign affairs will meet in Paris, in November 1980, at which I will submit a certain number of texts.

Next year, in 1981, following the French elections, a summit conference of chiefs of state and governments will be held. It is then that the definitive measures will be taken as to a draft statute of the joint organization.

[Question] Better than anyone else, you have followed the development of Africa. How do you conceive of its future over the next decade?

[Answer] Let us, first of all, consider this from the international viewpoint. The 1980 decade appears stronger, considering the invasion of Afghanistan and the resulting tension between East and West and, particularly between the United States and the USSR. For this reason, even in the case of developed countries and the part of the world which I describe as Euramerica, the future is clouded. This is the reason for which this future is clouded for Africa as well.

However, as I pointed out in my address to the nation, on 31 December 1979, that whereas I was a pessimist as far as international affairs were concerned, I was less so in terms of Africa. Naturally, conflicts exist in Africa as well. To call things by their names, there is the war in Ethopia; there was the war in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia; there is the war in Namibia, the war in the western part of the Sahara. Despite all this, I am less pessimistic. Whether it is a question of Berber-Arabs or black Africans, we have a feeling for a dialogue. That is how the OAU was able to settle several major conflicts such as the one which had broken out in 1963 between Morocco and Algeria. This is the reason for my lesser pessimism as far as Africa is concerned.

Furthermore, if we consider the problem of democracy, we have seen that in the past few years, year after year, Africa has progressed toward democracy. It is thus that in 1979 the three most bloody dictators were removed. It is also thus that, giving merely a few examples, the military gave back the power to civilians in Ghana and, above all, in Nigeria, which is the most populated African country with its 80 million people.

[Question] You seem to have been somewhat irked by the French intervention in Shaba. Why?

[Answer] Not only was I not irritated by the French intervention in Shaba but it did not surprise me. Actually, France intervened in Shaba to

protect its nationals. Any other country would have done the same. As far as I'm concerned, this is quite natural. We ourselves intervened in Shaba to help the government of Zaire defend itself against foreign invasion. Let me specify that we, the Senegalese, intervened at the request of the Zaire government which had appealed to the then president of the OAU who, in turn, had turned to the OAU members. I believe that it is always proper to honor one's commitments to one's allies or, simply one's friends.

[Question] In your view, does the Cuban presence in Africa threaten the stability of the continent?

[Answer] I shall not discuss the Cubans. I shall speak of the intervention of foreign armed forces in Africa.

Ever since the end of the war in Indochina, the confrontation between East and West or, specifically, between the United States and the USSR, which is a conflict fought through underdeveloped countries, was moved to Africa. Hence the war in Angola, let us call, once again, things by their proper name, the Zimbabwe-Rhodesia war, the Namibia war, the Shaba war, the war in Ethiopia, and the war in the western Sahara. This is the reason for which at the 1978 OAU Khartum summit, the Senegalese delegation had submitted a resolution condemning all interventions by foreign armies in Africa. The Senegalese resulution was adopted by simple majority but not by a two-thirds majority. What does this prove? It proves that one-third of the African states who proclaim themselves Marxist-Leninist, together with some moderate countries, have no faith in the strength of their ideology and would like to impose it. Currently the Cubans are the main instrument for this destabilization in Africa. However, they are not alone. We have currently in Africa some 70,000 Cuban, Soviet, and East German soldiers, faced by no more than some 15,000 Westerners.

Too Much Materialism

[Question] Since the revolution in Iran there has been an awakening of religious and fanatic movements, converted into political force, in a number of countries. What do you think of this situation in these foreign countries and what is the situation in your own country?

[Answer] The awakening of religious feelings and of intuitive reason, faced with discursive reason, is a natural phenomenon noted on all continents and in all religions.

Let me remind you of what I called the "Revolution of 1889" triggered by the "Essay on the Immediate Factors of Conscience," by Bergson. It was as of that moment that intuition regained its place in European philosophy on an equal footing with "discussion."

Today, as was the case at the end of the 19th century, the religious awakening comes from too much materialism. Consider the United States: With an equal size population, it has six times more priests than Latin America. This is the same type of religious awakening that one notes in Moslem countries. Within those countries, however, the religious awakening applies equally to Christianity, as is the case with Egypt. Therefore, this awakening is a natural phenomenon. In the case of the Third World, it is a question of not jumping from one excess to another, is it not? This was properly realized by the religious leaders in Senegal. In this country, to give you yet another example, the great Catholic seminary is crowded.

Last month I was told by a Senegalese Moslem leader that, "there is something more important than the ceremonies of religious zeal: the instruction of the faithful. They must be enlightened. The religious awakening must convert from prayer to action, to a practical morality."

Such is my conclusion concerning this problem. Religious awakening is a good thing. However, it should not be fanatical. This awakening must convert from dogma to practical action. We must change ourselves before we change the world.

That is why a Senegalese sect, the Muridists, has given a black African reinterpretation of the Koran by blending work with prayer. Let me say, that as far as this sect is concerned, work is the best prayer. It is thus that religious awakening does not clash with development. In conclusion, this is a question of clarity, balance, and measure.

[Question] Do you believe, nevertheless, that the transformation of this religious awakening to political force is not dangerous?

[Answer] I specifically believe that one should not confuse religion with politics. In Senegal, be it a question of Moslems or Christians, some 95 percent of the men and women practice a religion, and so do the politicians, even if they consider themselves "Marxist-Leninist." We are also a country with a new dynamic concept, secularity. Secularity is not a struggle against religion. It means cooperation between the state and the various faiths, with each one remaining in its own domain.

[Question] Do you see any long-term design in the invasion of Afghanistan by the USSR and in terms of the balance of forces in the world?

[Answer] Currently the major danger which should not be concealed is that of escalation and, to say it all, of nuclear war. It is natural for the big Western powers to organize and to react. I believe, however, that this does not mean that all dialogue should be abandoned.

That is the reason for which Senegal, through its permanent United Nations delegate, condemned the invasion of Afghanistan and took the same attitude at the Islamic conference in Islamabad. At the same time, however, we announced our decision to attend the Olympic games, to be consistent with ourselves, and to leave an open door for the dialogue. Actually, we were one of the four African countries who refused to confuse sports with politics and who had sent a delegation to Montreal.

[Question] In your view, what are the chances for international communism in Africa?

[Answer] I believe, first of all, that there are different types of communism. Here, in Senegal, I am extensively in contact with the secretary general of the African Independence Party which represents the communist movement.

A communism such as that of Yugoslavia or Romania does not frighten us, for it is a question of a national reinterpretation of Marx and Engels. We, members of the socialist party in Senegal, reject neither Marx nor Engels. Yet, once again, we have engaged in the black African reinterpretation of their works, rejecting atheism and the class struggle while retaining useful contributions, the dialectical method of all, which inspires black African philosophy.

The problem, I repeat it, is not to choose between communism and capitalism. The problem is to develop a socialist way which would also remain democratic and African and, I would even say, in our case, "black African." This is what we have chosen in Senegal.

[Question] Is the possibility of the big powers to interfere in the affairs of other countries a danger to Africa, black Africa in particular, a continent considered weak? Could this continent become the center of the future major conflicts or even a new battlefield?

[Answer] I have told you that since the end of the war in Indochina, since 1975, East and West and communism and capitalism had shifted their confrontation to Africa. Unquestionably, this had damaged Africa severely.

I said a "severe damage." Yet, what is the current truth? Countries claiming to be Marxist-Leninist account for about one-third of the 49 African independent states. Once again, the problem is that the Africans would like to think by themselves and for themselves on the basis of their values, whether Arab or black. Despite all this, progress has been achieved in the struggle against totalitarianism from the right and the left. As I told you, last year, in 1979, three bloody dictatorships came to an end. That same year democracy progressed in several African countries.

The Year of the Big Shock

[Question] The steady deterioration of the strong economies, the steady impoverishment of weak countries, the petroleum conflicts, general inflation, confrontation, and even the rejection of social institutions or organizations, is this not, in your view, the harbenger of a deeper crisis, more deadly than the one we are currently experiencing?

[Answer] 1979 was not only the year of the major petroleum shock but also the beginning of more open conflict between East and West, between the USSR and the United States. How did we get there?

In the past, a balance existed between discussion and intuition, between material and spiritual values, in the Mediterranean civilizations, ranging from the Egyptian to the Arab. It is the disruption of this balance and the triumph of material values, with discussion, it is this imbalance that plunged us into the current crisis. In my view, the reaction should not be strictly material. The reaction of the United States is, today, scientific, technical, material; there should also be a spiritual reaction. The religious crises of integration are a still clumsy means for such a spiritual reaction. The principle, however, is good. It is only by reacting as spiritual beings that we shall be able to surmount the current crisis.

Let me conclude by citing Marx. In a posthumously published manuscript entitled "Alienated Labor," carried by the March 1948 issue of REVUE SOCIALISTE, Marx tells us, I have frequently cited this text, that the first human activity is "to satisfy animal needs" such as the need for food, clothing, and habitation, and that it is only after such animal needs have been satisfied that man could engage in his "generic activity" which is that of "the creation of things of beauty."

You may have noticed that in today's world there has been a weakening of man's "generic" values. This is the real danger which threatens us. It is a question of creating a new humanism. This is the major objective of the Negritude movement, linked with other cultural movements which are appearing and blossoming throughout the world.

This is the reason for which, despite everything else, and despite today's uncertainties and the shadow which covers the 1980 decade, one should not lose hope.

5157
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MINISTER DISCUSSES PRIORITIES FACING AFRICAN NATIONS

Dakar AFRICA in French May 80 pp 47-49

[Interview with Moustapha Niasse, Senegalese Minister of Foreign Affairs, by Michel Deboste, in Paris, early in April: "Mr Moustapha Niasse, Senegal's Minister of Foreign Affairs: 'Present Times Require our States to Live on the Basis of an Accepted Interdependence'"]

[Text] On 8 May, 25 heads of states and governments will meet in Nice for the 7th Franco-African summit; these informal talks are not without interest; we saw it last year in Kigali; they make it possible to deal with the main concerns of the continent's leaders, concerns which are primarily economic, even though there cannot be any development without security, either military or with respect to food supplies. In fact, it is one existing opportunity to discuss and study the real problems of this continent's countries, whatever regime they may have chosen, and to do so with a privileged occidental partner, France, viewed not only in the light of the sometimes hundred year's old ties which bind it to these young nations, but also in the light of its relations with other EEC countries. In a way, these meetings help the Africans feel less lonely in their long and so difficult dialogue with the North.

At any rate, this is the opinion of Mr Moustapha Niasse, the Senegalese minister of Foreign Affairs, interviewed at the close of the preparatory ministers' conference, early in April, at the International Relations Center, avenue Kleber in Paris.

"From 11 countries to 25 within 7 years; this is a parameter which enables us to evaluate the usefulness of such informal talks. First, they enable us to make plans together in an atmosphere of friendliness, very

open and serious at the same time; together, the heads of states exchange opinions and devise joint orientations which are to determine the direction of their action in various areas: political, economic, cultural, briefly, in the important area of the economic and social development of our countries. This evolution which has led us to include among us English and Portuguese speaking countries--and even one Spanish-speaking country, Equatorial Guinea--all this leads us to believe, in all modesty, that we are on the right track."

[Question] Precisely what are the essential priorities which African countries must face?

[Answer] I can think of four: the right to peace, the right to security, the right to development and, finally, in connection with the latter, development cooperation. And if you take a close look at the agenda which will be discussed in Nice, you will note that it includes mostly international economic relations and development cooperation, which both take into account the priorities of African states and their evolution since their respective independence, the capabilities of industrial countries, as well as the objective necessity of restoring the balance of international trade and exchanges. It is obvious that, unless we ensure peace within our borders, and within the geographical, regional and subregional areas which we form, we cannot build anything durable; but ensuring this right to peace involves ensuring the right of African states to security and this, in turn, is tied to the problem of development as a whole, considering the means which we lack and which we must obtain under a fraternal, sincere and fecund cooperation based on mutual exchanges; in fact, if we are likely to receive, we, as such, can also give. The great design of France, which restores its historical vocation as a generous country and a generous nation, is to have understood--as other European states have--that, when all is said and done, cooperation is a great human task and that each of us has to contribute something to it, and receive something from it, apart from any other materialistic conception or connotation of exchanges and cooperation. Present times require that our states live on the basis of an accepted and thought-out interdependence, for no country, no matter what its level of development is, can live in isolation in the present state of evolution of the world; this is why, for the African states which take part in these meetings, France is a sort of interpreter to the world as a whole, whether Europe or the higher international bodies where France belongs and where she occupies an important place because of all that which makes it precisely what it is, France. And it is most sincerely that we, Africans, make ours this enlarged cooperation based on a solidarity which is actually practiced and the result not only, for most of us, of historical circumstances, but of a series of common cultural orientations.

Development And the French-Speaking Community

[Question] This ministers' conference has provided you with an opportunity to present to your colleagues the outlines of a project dear to your president, Mr Leopold Sedar Senghor, for what has been called an organic community of French-speaking countries, a sort of French commonwealth. "French," but how?

[Answer] President Senghor himself will present to his colleagues the report which they have asked him to prepare last year in Kigali. As far as principles are concerned, there are--whether explicit or not--a number of cultural realities which bind together all countries using French either as official, or national, or working language, or as a means for international communications, and which form a bridge of mutual understanding which does not correspond to some automatism or determinism, but to the carefully considered idea that each must bring its stone if a solid structure is to be built. And this, again, is apart from all materialistic conception of the French-speaking community; it is more important, more comprehensive, and greater. Believe me.

[Question] Nevertheless, all things considered, can we say that this linguistic community could be a factor of development and especially a place for a dialogue between the various people who speak French?

[Answer] You know, what is certain is that for us, Senegalese, and above all for our president, development begins and ends with culture. It is impossible to conceive development without culture, whether in a national, sub-regional or regional context, or even in an international context as will be the case. You see, this is why we do not make a difference between cultural organizations and the projections they may have in their action in favor of development, whether integrated or jointly planned...

Cultural Dialogue

[Question] Without betraying the secrecy of the meetings, what struck observers is precisely that when it came to discussing the Afro-Arabo-European three-way dialogue, the French stressed the economic necessities which make it imperative, while African representatives, the Zairian delegate for instance, insisted on the cultural dialogue which such a three-way cooperation can make possible...

[Answer] This is very important! The present evolution of the world's economy is so complex that most African countries believe it would be irrational to attempt to base such an important, noble and essential project as this three-way cooperation on a merely economic conception of exchanges; just as Arab countries have their own means and their own problems, African countries, too, have their problems which result from

their lack of means, and the Europeans have theirs because of inflation; so, if this three-way dialogue were already an organized reality, it would be possible, from an economic point of view, to stress the necessity to put an end to the injustices and imbalances which have been shown to characterize international economic relations. But once this problem solved, assuming it can be solved, what would we do? And this is where the cultural aspect becomes crucial, it is the very symbol of the permanence and solidarity which we contemplate through this project of a three-way dialogue. And believe me, many cultural similarities, or beginnings of cultural similarities exist between Arab and African countries as a result of historic migrations, of the exchanges between the Mediterranean--a melting pot of civilizations--and the Arab-Persian Gulf and also Europe. And these have existed since the most ancient times, they have increased and have become stronger during the ages, and nobody talked about inflation--that did not exist yet; and the raw material phenomenon did not have its present importance; and nobody knew all the complexities of industrial civilization, created by, and springing from the international economic evolution. Thus, you see, all these superimposed strata have not succeeded in concealing the underlying cultural basis.

Arab-African Dossier

[Question] However, some have said, Mr Minister, that African countries had been somewhat disappointed by the Arabs; do you believe that a three-way dialogue would give Arab countries a better appreciation of the real needs of the African continent?

[Answer] I believe that problems should be situated at various levels. First, African countries have never said that they have been disappointed by Arab countries, at least Senegal did not, and I would like to state this in the most sincere, most direct and most truthful manner; President Leopold Sedar Senghor is a head of state who has consistently entertained the best relations with Arab countries, whether Saudi Arabia, Kuweit, Bahrein, Qatar or North Africa; in our political or economic relations with Arab countries, we have never had any problems with respect to development, our cooperation or our joint discussions on important international problems.

This being said, there exist relations of cooperation between Arab and African countries, irrespective of geographical zones; this is what has been called "the important dossier of Arab-African cooperation;" and all this has already created a fabric on which we can base joint development projects between African countries in a harmonious manner. Therefore, it is a matter of time, and we are still within the time allotted by the Dakar and Cairo conferences. However, this does not mean that the European aspect, existing next to this fabric of joint relations between Arabs and Africans, is not useful, on the contrary. An expansion of the limits of our cooperation is justified in that, since their independence, African states--most

of them--have been cooperating with Europe in an almost privileged manner, especially with France; Arab states cooperate with Europe in their commercial exchanges, they have capital to be invested in consumer goods; Europe, too, has technology which it wants to sell, loan or export, or at any rate use in countries which need it, such as Arab countries, and which can pay for these technological services. In the same manner, therefore, Europe has privileged relations with Arab states, with African countries; rather than proceeding in two or more stages, why not get together, compare our experience, establish coherent programs which can be realized by the joint efforts of European countries (for technology and financing), Arab countries (for financing), and those African countries which possess the raw materials and a certain availability, especially in the field of labor.

You see, we are thinking aloud together; there are many other elements which we could examine during this interview, but what I want to tell you is that, to us, such three-way dialogue is a very important matter, not only because of its practical usefulness, but also because of its projections which manifest themselves in a kind of expansion of relations between nations subscribing to the same ideal of mutual generosity, fraternal solidarity, as I said before, and above all of day-to-day realism, because the present trend all over the world is for consolidation; unity is strength, as they say in your country, and in ours too, and it is essential that we achieve that unity...

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RURAL ECONOMY REFORMED, RURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND SET UP

London WEST AFRICA in English 19 May 80 pp 903-904

[Text] The structures of the rural economy, for long an object of severe criticism in Senegal, have been reformed. The law was adopted by the National Assembly in April.

The main objective of the reform which had been announced last December by the Prime Minister, M. Abdou Diouf, as part of the measures aimed at reviving the Senegalese economy, consist mainly of a decentralisation and rationalisation of the marketing bodies, notably, ONCAD, the Office Nationale de Co-operation et d'Assistance au Developpement.

Final Resolution

The final resolution at the Assembly said the reform was made necessary by the enormous difficulties in the Senegalese rural sector after years of drought and inefficiency and lack of coor.ination in the organisational structures.

The reforms are intended, according to the law, to .ut an end to the deficit in food production, to stop the rural exodus and to increase the rural population with a view to creating an agro-industry. To this end, the regional organisations, of which there are ten, will be responsible henceforth for the organisation of production in their relevant areas.

At the same time, the reform indicates that ONCAD's responsibility for the marketing of production and for the cooperatives is to be reduced.

This organisation, which some had referred to as a state within a state and which last year, it was revealed, had embezzled funds to the value of one billion CFA francs will now be only responsible for the marketing of groundnuts. Private companies and traders will take on the marketing responsibilities for outer products. Furthermore, . stic sales of groundnuts to local pressing plants by cooperati ow be done directly and not through ONCAD. Similarly, these co- ratives will handle the organisation for the distribution of their eds and fertiliser. Regional development organisations are now made responsible for co-operatives at the expense of ONCAD.

Rural Development Fund

It is also envisaged that a fund for participation in rural development is to be created. Its aim will be to promote rural development. The financing for the fund will be from taxes on agricultural products and from contributions from the agricultural transformation industry.

M. Djibril Sene said, in presenting his report, to the Assembly that the eventual aim, and criterion for the reforms, is that more responsibility should devolve to the rural population with a view to and eventual suppression of many of the existing organisations which undertake that role.

A correspondent writes: One of the battlecries of the opposition in Senegal in the last few years has been the reform of the agricultural sector. The last two years have provided ample justification for their campaign. Esse tially, it has been felt that the initial plans for a co-operative structure to agricultural production which had been introduced at independence and was very much supported by the original Prime Minister, M. Mamadou Dia, had gradually been eroded as the State interferred in growing proportions. As a result, the initiative was taken away from the peasants with striking consequences; peasants recently refused to repay their debts to the government, and in this action they were supported by their traditional and religious authorities.

It now remains to be seen to what extent the peasants will take up the responsibilities that are meant to be returned to him by the reform.

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EFFECTS OF AGRICULTURAL CRISIS SPREADING THROUGHOUT ECONOMY

Paris LE MONDE in French 16 Apr 80 p 44

[Article by Pierre Biarnes]

> [Text] On this 20th anniversary of its independence, the economic situation in Senegal is disturbing. The peanut harvest is by far the worst one recorded since World War II: after the campaign which is just ending, scarcely more than 250,000 tons of seeds in the shell will be delivered for processing to the oil factories, which have a capacity to deal with almost four times that amount.
>
> Once again, drought has taken its toll. As in the other countries of West Africa--in Niger, Nigeria and Mali notably--this alarming counter-performance is also the result of the profound lassitude of the peasants, who are turning away more and more from this crop on which the return has become far too risky.

Beyond the unquestionable effects of the deterioration of the terms of exchange, the peasants are victims of the vigorous reappearance, in recent years, of the old practices of usury which had formerly disqualified the colonial "trade." They are not put into effect by the agents, at all levels, of the "cooperative" system of government which replaced, in the early sixties, the old Bordeaux and Marseilles agencies: the National Office of Cooperation and Assistance for Development, as this organization is derisively called, which the government, refusing to admit its failure in such a principal domain, seems especially determined to maintain as a large proportion of the opposition is calling for its dismantling.

In order not to starve, during the long months between harvests--from May to December--the farmers are constrained to solicit advances from the petty officials who control them (and who are often secretly subsidized by eminent national businessmen, perfectly integrated into the politico-religious Establishment which actually runs the country). Later, after the harvest,

they only collect a part of what they would normally be entitled to, which is already quite meager. Their indebtedness to public organizations, suppliers of seed, fertilizers, fungicides and farming equipment, has thus reached such proportions that it would be necessary to have a harvest double this year's to pay off the whole. So, progressively, we are seeing the resurgence of the subsistence economy at the family and village level, to the detriment of the monetary economy.

Weakened Industries

This decline of what was until recently still the principal resource of the country has disastrous effects on most of the other sectors of economic life, with the exception of fishing and tourism, which are largely independent of it. In particular, many industries producing high-volume consumer goods, such as textiles, are very weak--especially as, for several years, under the pretext of helping the nation's "businessmen" (actually, too often, phony holders of import licenses resold immediately to foreign merchants, in cooperation with unscrupulous customs officials), their market is flooded with similar products from Hong Kong.

The balance of trade is more and more uneven. In 1980, taking into account internal consumption, foreign sales of peanut oil and feed cakes will only be enough, at the most, to pay one-third of the petroleum bill, estimated at 45 billion francs CFA. Total exports, which will barely exceed 75 billion francs CFA, are at risk of only covering less than 50 percent of the imports. In such a context, which is after all only circumstancial (according to the World Bank, Senegal has been for 20 years, for its rate of growth, third from the bottom of the seventeen French-speaking countries of black Africa, and during this whole period its per-capita GNP has shrunk by an annual average of 0.3 percent), the government, crushed under the weight of an overcrowded administration--on the point of absorbing, from month to month, its entire treasury (around 70 thousand actual bureaucrats and 35 thousand "para-officials")--is no longer in a position to face many of its obligations. This year, except for carrying over balances due, the approximately 30 billion francs for reimbursement of the external debt (a total amount on the order of 275 billion francs CFA) can only be paid at the cost of more borrowing.

Periodically, as is the case now, strict orders are given to the Treasury to stop payments to the suppliers, whose claims on the public authorities under their diverse forms stand already at an impressive number of billions, whereas the banks are less and less able to cover the transactions. They themselves are solicited by the government and by the several organizations dependent upon it for several tens of billions, which they have had to advance without hope of rapid reimbursement. Already indebted to their foreign counterparts beyond what is tolerable, having more and more difficulty refinancing their credits with an issuing institution confronted by analogous problems, the banks are reduced, sometimes from one day to the next, to withdrawing the supports formerly accorded to their clients. For the last several months, they haven't even succeeded in covering their

transfers regularly, even within the free-trade zone, as if, de facto, Senegal were no longer a part of it, which of course is not the case, just the same. For these reasons, literally strangled, dozens of formerly prosperous companies are on the verge of declaring bankruptcy.

According to the most knowledgeable experts in government and in the private sector, only immediate outside aid of some sixty billion francs CFA, by permitting the government to pull itself off the rocks, would be capable of preventing such a development. Supposing that it could be obtained, there would nevertheless remain, if they did not wish to find themselves in the same situation two or three years from now, the necessity of attacking without delay the basic problems, that is, in a very concrete manner, to grapple with the special interests of the ruling classes. But it is obvious that that will be even more difficult.

9508
CSO: 4400

BIG ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION PARADE SCHEDULED

Victoria NATION in English 17 May 80 pp 1, 2

[Text] **THIS year's June 5 parade will be biggest ever held in Seychelles and will also serve to show enemies of the Seychellois socialist revolution, both inside and outside the country, the might and determination of the people to defend their country and the road they have chosen, said the Minister of Defence, Mr. Ogilvy Berlouis, yesterday.**

Minister Berlouis, who is organising the military side of the parade, told our reporter that the size of the military contingent which, for the first time ever will include some of the Seychelles People's Liberation Army's military hardware, will serve as a warning to those who question the will and capability of the Seychellois nation to fight for what they have achieved.

"This parade will not only be important from the Ministry of Defence's point of view but also for the nation as a whole." said the Minister. "Our people — and our enemies — will see the military capability of our security forces which have been charged with the defence of the revolution and of the country.

"We have often been threatened in the past, but I am convinced that our forces together with the people are capable of, and ready to face anything.

"It is not only numbers that count. What is much more important is the will of our people and of our troops who have sworn to defend their country to the last drop of their blood.

The military contigents of the June 5 parade will include units from the SPLA, the Seychelles Navy, the People's Militia, the Police Force — both regular and the Police Mobile Unit — and the national and airport fire brigades.

Neither purely military nor purely civilian will be the

contingents of Young Pioneers and Pioneers, totalling between 1,000 and 1,200.

The SPLA will include for the first time in a parade some of their heavy arms and transport, thus giving the public a look at various modes of military transports, truck-borne troops, and artillery pieces — a real show of revolutionary, but non-aggressive, strength.

Branches, Union

The civilian section of the parade is being co-ordinated by the Assistant Treasurer of the Seychelles People's Progressive Front and Chairwoman of the Seychelles Women's Association, Mrs. Rita Simon. They will be divided into two main sectors, the SPPF Branches and the National Workers Union.

"We held a meeting of Branch chairmen" Mrs Simon told us, "and it was agreed that at least 30 people from each of the 23 branches will take part, a total of 690 marchers.

Evening training sessions — SPLA instructors have started and mass practices on Freedom Square are being planned."

While the Branch members do not have to wear uniforms, some districts are planning to wear Liberation anniversary T-shirts. The marchers will also carry revolutionary banners and slogans.

The 90 representatives from La Digue and Grand Anse and Baie St. Anne Praslin branches are expected to travel to Mahe by boat on the day of the parade and return the same day.

Meanwhile, the National Workers Union has sent its field secretaries into the different employment sectors to enlist a total of 200 workers of both sexes, from all types of jobs and all walks of life.

These volunteers are being asked to train with their SPPF branches until they can all be called for mass training sessions on Freedom Square.

Workers who wear uniforms to work will parade in them and the NWU is busy preparing banners too.

Road march

With so many people involved it is obvious that this year's parade cannot be held in the People's Stadium as in the past. So ,the march past will be mainly along the June 5 Avenue.

The parade will start on Palm Street then via the right side of the Le Chantier roundabout along June 5 Avenue, past the Monument roundabout and the School Mass Centre to a point near the Department of Information at Union Vale.

However, Mr. Berlouis said, this route has yet to be confirmed as the exact number of people taking part in the parade is gradually worked out.

Minister Berlouis added that contrary to some rumours, there would not be any clash between the June 5 parade and the Corpus Christi procession which will be held the same day, and neither would the procession be prohibited.

Taking into consideration the religous procession, the organising committee, which also includes Mr. David Thomas, the Principal Secretary in the Office of the President, had planned the June 5 parade for the morning, said Mr. Berlouis, leaving the afternoon free.

CSO: 4420

SUCCESS OF AIR SEYCHELLES REPORTED

Victoria NATION in English 19 May 80 pp 1, 2

[Text] **AIR SEYCHELLES is one of the Republic's newest success stories. In its first nine months up to the end of 1979 it operated profitably, the number of passengers carried is increasing and two planes have been added since it was set up as a subsidiary of Seychelles National Investment Corporation last year.**

But this is by no means the end of its progress. Government policies towards development of the outer islands and towards Praslin as the next major tourist centre mean the airline is likely to have an even greater role to play.

History

The biggest problem so far has been the task of putting the company on a properly organised basis, including setting up the reservation system. It now has sections for traffic, engineering, accounts, administration and reservations and employs a total of 42 people.

Air Seychelles' history goes back to 1977 when Seychelles Airlines was formed mainly to negotiate commercial arrangements with the airlines then flying into the Republic. In 1979 Seychelles Airlines bought Inter-Island Airways, which had by then taken over Air Mahe.

Seychelles Airlines traded under the name Inter-Island Airways until July 1, when the title Air Seychelles was first used.

Scheduled flights run daily to Praslin and Bird Island with charters, accounting for about 10 per cent of the business, to Denis and various other islands. A small amount of cargo is also carried.

The company has four planes — two 17-seat Trislanders and two 9-seat Islanders. Since taking over last year, a new Trislander and a second-hand Islander

have been bought. The expansion in service is likely to be to the outer islands and it will shortly be decided whether other planes are needed; the present ones do, however, have the range to reach all the islands in Seychelles.

Figures

Unfortunately it is impossible to compare the passenger figures now with the time before the takeover, because the old Seychelles Airlines did not record its figures properly.

The returns in the first year from April 1 1979 to March 31 1980 show that 32,980 non-residents and 21,097 residents flew to Praslin, a total of 54,057. For Birds Island the figures are 16,479 non-residents and 1,955 residents; other flights, mainly to Denis, were 3,598 non-residents and 1,976 residents. The total number of passengers to all destinations was 77,985.

It seems certain, however, that the number of passengers is increasing, particularly of residents. In the months October — December 1979, 4,362 residents flew to Praslin; from January-March 1980 the figure was 6,128.

Difference

Overall the proportion of residents using Air Seychelles is 32 per cent.

"I think the difference between Air Seychelles and the previous management is that we've set it up with organised procedures and basic policies have been drawn up", says Mrs Stravens the general manager, "Whereas before it was just a means of hopping across to the other islands, we've establish it as a national carrier."

Any fares policy is likely to be a controversial matter particularly in times of a worldwide fuel crisis, but Mrs. Stravens feels that Air Seychelles has kept its fares at a reasonable level.

She stresses that the rise imposed in April was not an increase in fares but a fuel surcharge made necessary by a 64 per cent rise in fuel costs. Even this was not passed on to customers in full but absorbed by as much as 50 per cent on some sectors and 10 per cent on others.

As things stand, the fares policy favours residents of Seychelles against tourists. The return flight from Mahe to Praslin, for example, costs R. 270 normally, including fuel surcharge; for residents the cost is R. 160. The return flight to Bird Island is R. 500 for tourists and R. 450 for residents.

Residents Special

Residents can also take advantage of various special tickets. For example the Mahe to Praslin trip can be booked from one hour before departure at a cost of R. 60. A standby ticket, which means simply turning up at the airport and taking the chance that a seat is available, costs only R. 50. There is also a special residents' excursion return ticket from Praslin to Mahe costing R. 100.

The difference in fares for tourists and residents is justified on the grounds that residents are the year-round mainstay of Air Seychelles whereas tourists are simply temporary visitors.

The big change in the immediate future will come with the building of a new domestic terminal for Air Seychelles, due to be started this year.

"We are not happy with what we have at the airport at the moment", says Mrs. Stravens. "We've tried to better it but it's difficult."

And future operations? Will the day come when Air Seychelles enters the international market?

"We would like to see Air Seychelles as an international carrier," she says. "But one has to weigh up the economy of the country, the traffic that originates here and the whole structure of competition with the large airlines.

"To give us a clear and positive view of the whole matter we are now carrying out studies to see if it is viable on a regional or international basis. We should have the first results some time this year."

In the meantime Air Seychelles will continue to play its part in negotiating the best possible financial deal with airlines when they want to start flights into Seychelles.

On the question of air services to Seychelles from around the world, Mrs. Stravens thinks one obvious area where improvement is needed is the Far East, since it can still be a long, drawn-out business reaching Seychelles. West Africa is another problem area — in some cases the quickest way to get there being via Paris.

CSO: 4420

FISH PROCESSING TRIAL PROJECT REPORTED

Victoria NATION in English 22 May 80 pp 1, 2

[Text] **TRIALS in fish processing are now going ahead that could mean more economical exporting of fish and a more convenient supply of food for the home market.**

If successful, they could also lead to a better use of fish waste as a high-protein animal feed.

The experiments, which have recently begun, are part of the general work on processing and quality control being carried out by the Fisheries Division of the Department of Agriculture.

The idea is to fillet fish and freeze it in blocks of two or four kilos ,which can later be sawn up as they are or separated into their individual fillets.

Several types of fish can be treated in this way, the groupers being particularly suitable, and the method can also be used with fish such as bscar which do not normally appear on the home market — to make them more attractive to the customer.

Filleting would mean that a higher value of fish could be exported in the same space, thus making an important saving on shipping costs — in fact it is estimated that the shipping rate could be halved.

The Fisheries Division is now hoping for funds to arrange a trial shipment of fillet blocks to Reunion, which is the major market for Seychelles fish. At the moment fish is shipped frozen whole or with the heads removed, but in either case the amount of waste in the consignment is high.

Since the home market for fish has probably reached near saturation point — at 90 kilos per person per year, consumption in Seychelles is among the highest in the world — the Division, in its two sections of pelagic, or surface, fishing and demersal, or bottom, fishing is increasingly looking to the export market for future developments.

Fillected fish could however, be an important food source for the tourist mar-

ket and a convenience food useful in families where both parents were working. Being a simple process it could be done by local commercial enterprises, including supermarkets or run through the Government cold store.

The fish remains after filleting could be used either as a food for pets or livestock, or turned into a minced fish product for human consumption.

A trial is also going on to convert fish heads into a liquid feed that could be one of the ingredients in a fully balanced pig diet. The mixture is acidified, which destroyes harmful bacteria and prevents from going rotten. It is estimated that 100-150 tons of fish heads are produced every year from the export trade alone.

One of the other projects shortly to be started in the Fisheries Division is the regular testing of fish for mercury content. This is likely to be particularly important as the tuna industry expands and fish is exported to countries with strict regulations on mercury.

It is not expected that Seychelles tuna will prove to have a high mercury content, especially in the smaller skipjack tuna that form the bulk of the current catch.

Another important exercise now underway is quality control in the smoked fish industry. Regular checks are being made at the three plants involved to see that hygiene standards are upheld--this is essential since at the end of the process the fish is still virtually raw and contamination by microorganisms possible.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

RELATIONS WITH ALBANIA--The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Jacques Hodoul, yesterday morning met Mr Asanik Keja, Ambassador of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania acredited to Tanzania (left). Mr Keja, who met Minister Hodoul for the first time during the Zimbabwe Independence celebrations, is currently in Syechelles to hold initial talks on bilateral relations with members of the Government. In a press communique issued following the meeting, the two Governments have expressed their desire to develop and promote new relations of friendship and cooperation between their respective countries and peoples and have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level. It is expected that Albania will acredit its Ambassador based in Dar-es-Salaam to Seychelles in the future. However, as Mr. Keja is at the end of his term of office as the Albanian Ambassador to Tanzania, it is hoped that his successor will be accredited to Seychelles, on a non-resident basis. The acreditation of an Albanian Ambassador to Seychelles will undoubtedly contribute to the promotion of relations between the two countries. Mr. Keja, who arrived in the Republic on Wednesday is due to leave on Monday. [Text] [Victoria NATION in English 17 May 80 p 2]

PRASLIN EMPLOYMENT SCHEME--The Government's Full Employment Scheme, which provides paid work for the unemployed, is to be extended to Praslin starting on Tuesday, May 27. This follows the success of the scheme on Mahe, where more than 300 people daily are now working on various jobs around the island. The scheme will operate on Praslin in exactly the same was as it has on Mahe for the past 2 and 1/2 months, with initial assembly points being opened outside the Law Court in Grand Anse and at the road junction outside Barclay's Bank in Baie Ste. Anne. [Excerpt] [Victoria NATION in English 21 May 80]

GOVERNMENT INSURANCE COMPANY--The government is to set up the State Assurance Corporation of Seychelles, which will enable it to carry out all kinds of insurance business in the Republic and overseas. Among the types of insurance the new Corporation will be able to offer are fire, marine, accident, employers' liability, motor and transport. It will also be in a position to carry out life assurance and annuity business. One of the provisions of the Act setting up the company is that all insurers in Seychelles shall reinsure part of every policy they issue or renew. The Government will determine what proportion is to be reinsured. Any insurer who fails to make

payment to the Government for reinsurance will be liable to a fine of R. 100,000. The Corporation will be controlled by a board of directors appointed by the Minister and a general manager. The new company will also have the power to act as underwriters and shipping agents and invest in any commercial or industrial enterprise in any part of the world. [Text] [Victoria NATION in English 23 May 80 p 2]

COMMONWEALTH LOAN--The new national Seychelles Electricity Corporation has secured a loan of R 20 million from the Commonwealth Development Corporation to buy a five-megawatt generator for Victoria Power Station. The Principal Secretary for Works, Mr. Maxime Fayon, representing the Corporation and Mr. John White, the Deputy Principal Secretary for Finance, returned home this week from London where they held discussions with the Commonwealth Development Corporation. The new generator has already been commissioned and is expected to arrive in Seychelles in one or two months' time. A new building will be constructed to house the generator, which will supplement the existing four generators in service in Victoria. The R 20 million loan will be repaid over 12 years not by the Seychelles Government but by the Corporation itself which, being a national commercial venture, will raise the necessary revenue. [Excerpts] [Victoria NATION in English 21 May 80 pp 1, 2]

NATIONAL FLOWER CHOSEN--The white vanilla orchid has been chosen as Seychelles' national flower. The orchid, which is better known as the paille-en-queue, will be used by the Tourism Division as its new logo for its various stationery and publicity material. [Excerpt] [Victoria NATION in English 22 May 80 p 2]

CLUB CONVERTED INTO YOUTH HQ--The Government has bought the Seychelles Club building on Independence Avenue, Victoria, for R 500,000 and the ex-members have agreed to donate to Seychelles Hospital the residue of the money after settling their accounts. The deal was finalised at a meeting this week and the members agreed to a suggestion to hand over the R 325,000 left over after paying the bank. The money is to be used to buy hospital equipment. A Government spokesman has expressed thanks for the members' gesture of goodwill. The ex-Syechelles Club is now the headquarters of the Department of Youth and Community Development. [Text] [Victoria Nation in English 22 May 80 p 2]

CSO: 4420

BOTHA ANNOUNCES NEW ROCKET ARTILLERY

Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 2 May 80 p 1

[Excerpts] An artillery rocket system has been perfected by South Africa as a countermeasure for a similar Russian system and it is now in production, according to Minister of Defense P. W. Botha in a statement he made in the course of his budget debate in Parliament.

He stated that the country is making progress in developing armaments and with the help of the Armaments Corporation the project for an artillery rocket system has been completed.

He saw the system in action and is proud to think that South African technicians and military people have realized this project. The system is 100 percent locally produced.

Mr Botha also announced that in accordance with the policy of collaboration between all elements of the armed forces the navy will proceed to provide a complete company strength component for operational services.

Complaints Office

As minister of defense the prime minister also treated the following matters:

Bullying in the armed forces: With respect to this matter he stated that the appointment of a complaint office has already proven to be a permanent deterrent. Great care has been shown in the selection of junior leaders and commanders and instructions are also being issued on the treatment of servicemen and the danger of such things as heat-exhaustion.

Helicopters: The Atlas Aircraft Corporation, the Airforce and the Armaments Corporation are examining the future use of helicopters in the armed forces and also to extent to which local industries are capable of helping in the manufacturing of helicopters.

Military correspondents: The armed forces group has come up with the draft of a regulation for military correspondents who accompany the armed forces in military operations and after further measures are taken this regulation will become effective. The creation of a military correspondents corps is not acceptable, because it is possible for the correspondents to form a union.

Civil defense: Steps are being taken to make sure that blacks, coloreds and Indians will take part in civil defense actions.

Attention is being paid to arriving at a more proportional division of the work load which members of the Citizen Force are shouldering.

7964
CSO: 4408

BRIEFS

MOSLEM LEADER ARRESTED- Mr Ahmad Casiem (37), a Moslem leader, was arrested in his residence by th[illegible]curity Police. Mr Cassiem is under detention. A spokesman of the Polic[illegible], Directorate of Public Relations confirmed yesterday in Pretoria that Mr Cassiem was arrested by the Security Police, but did not say anything else. Mr Cassiem of Soetwaterkloof 36, Downwood Road, Hanoverpark, was arrested on 19 December of last year under the provisions of Article 9 (1) of the Security Act and will be kept in custody until 31 December 1980. This is the second time that he is being detained in pursuance of the Security Act. On 23 July 1974 he was arrested and detained until the end of last year. [Text] [Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 24 Apr 80 p 3] 7964

EXPLOSIVES MAGAZINE ACCIDENT-A serviceman is dead after an explosives magazine which he was guarding near Genieskloof at Kroonstad exploded. The army has already appointed a board of inquiry into this matter. The magazine consists of a complex with various compartments. One of the compartments exploded mysteriously Friday afternoon at about 1500. The other compartments, where explosives are also stored, were not affected by the explosion. Sapper Marais was the only guard at the magazine at the time of the explosion. The explosion was heard 1 mile away. Inhabitants of Kroonstad who live on the opposite side of the military base could hear the explosion. No arrangements have been made for the burial. [Excerpts] [Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 28 Apr 80 p 12] 7964

CSO: 4408

KOREAN DELEGATION AFFIRMS FRIENDSHIP TIES

Bamako LA NOUVELLE MARCHE in French 25 Apr 80 p 3

[Article: "The Father of the Nation Yesterday Held A Meeting with a Korean Delegation That Arrived Tuesday"]

[Excerpts] Several minutes after he had attended the FAT (Togolese Armed Forces) parade marking the victory celebration, the founder and president of the RPT (Rally of the Togolese People), President of the Republic, General of the Army, Gnassingbe Eyadema, received at the RIT (Togolese Inter-Service Regiment) camp an important Korean delegation of five members, led by Kim Il Dai, president of the Education Committee of the Peoples Democratic Republic of Korea.

This delegation, which arrived in Togo on Tuesday, was introduced in the presidential office by Ayite Gachin Mivedor, member of the Political Office and permanent director of the RPT.

At the close of a long meeting with the national Helmsman, Dai informed the press that his delegation is staying in our country with the common goal of developing the ties of friendship and cooperation existing between our two countries.

"We are here," said the head of the Korean delegation, "to transmit to President Eyadema the verbal message from comrade Kim Il Sung."

Dai particularly stated that during his interview the father of our Togolese nation assured him of the firm support from the party, the government and the Togolese people to the Korean people in the battle they are waging to reunify their fatherland.

"The chief of state," he continued, "was pleased to see relations of friendship and cooperation developing between Korea and Togo, which relations he wants to see strengthened more and extended in all fields.

"Upon our return to Korea," Dai concluded, "we will not fail to transmit President Eyadema's message to President Kim Il Sung."

Before having been received by the national Helmsman, the Korean delegation had a working session on Wednesday at Party Headquarters with the RPT's permanent administration presided over by member of the Political Office Ayite Gachin Mivedor.

This meeting allowed the two delegations to judge all the initiatives tending toward strengthening the ties of friendship uniting the Korean and Togolese peoples.

The Korean delegation included, besides President Dai, Messrs Djeun Myeung Kyeung, ambassador of the RPDC to Togo; Kim Bong Sik, director of Foreign Affairs; Ri-Sonk Kyeug, envoy of Togolese relations.

On the Togolese side one noted the presence of the members of the Central Committee: Messrs Samon Kortho, Anani Gassou, Atsu Koffi Amega and Tcha Koza Tchalim, respectively Minister of Rural Management, Minister of Rural Development, President of the Supreme Court and technical adviser of the Korea-Togo Association, and national delegate of the JRPT (Youth of the Rally of the Togolese People), as well as deputies of the ministers of Foreign Affairs, Rural Development, Interior and Youth, Sports and Culture.

Dai moreover specified that the Togolese and Korean peoples are brothers and comrades in arms in the achievements of the same ideals: fighting against imperialism and promoting peace.

Kim Il Dai expressed the wish that President Eyadema again visit Korea, where he will receive a very warm welcome.

Speaking of the problem of a dialog between North and South Korea, he stated that his country intends to open the door to a dialog against harsh obstacles.

Regarding the worsening of the international situation, Dai maintained that this is the action of the imperialists, who in their struggle for dominance, are setting in opposition the newly independent nations. In addition, he spoke of the world crisis in energy and of the establishment of a new international economic order.

Kim Il Dai repeated his country's support to the struggle of the Palestinian people, the POLISARIO Front and Namibia. He also hailed the independence of Zimbabwe, which he stated is "the universal victory of our time."

9545
CSO: 4400

PROCEEDINGS OF SEVENTH UDV-RDA CONGRESS

Ouagadougou L'OBSERVATEUR in French 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 Mar 80

[By special correspondents K. I. El Kara and L. Sawadogo]

[26 Mar 80 pp 1, 8-12, 5]

[Excerpts] As we wrote in our previous issue, the Seventh Regular Congress of the UDV-RDA [Voltan Democratic Union-African Democratic Rally] began its proceedings yesterday morning, at 1030 hours, on the topic of "Democracy in Unity for Development." The event took place at People's House where an atmosphere of fair prevailed, suitable for a meeting of such importance.

People's house was, therefore, crowded by people who had come from Ouagadougou and other parts of the territory.

Thus, for example, people from Bobo-Dioulasso came by entire rail coaches, buses, and [super-geolettes]. From Ouahigouya, an armada of shock trcops came in large numbers, and no less substantial groups came from other areas.

The first officials to arrive were the members of the political bureau, hailed by the members whose zeal doubled with the arrival of the great: Malo Traore, Amadou Gani Tamboura, Joseph Conombo, Ali Baraud, and Gerard Kango Ouedraogo.

General Lamizana, President of the Republic, was the last to arrive, surprising a number of observers, and triggering the enthusiasm of those attending the congress. It was a surprise since in previous congresses the chief of state had only sent a representative. This was the very first time that he was coming in person to be present on such an occasion. Therefore, there was nothing surprising in the major debate which would unfailingly be triggered on the eternal question of neutrality as per Article 12 of the constitution.

The enthusiasm of those present at the congress was caused by the fact that this real presence of the chief of state was a great honor, not to

say the highly tangible proof that President Lamizana was certainly one of them.

The foreign delegations attending the ceremony included the one headed by Philippe Yace, president of the Ivory Coast National Assembly and secretary general of the PDCI-RDA [Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast-RDA], of the Democratic Party of Guinea (PDG), the Mali People's Democratic Union (UPDM), the Togolese People's Rally (RPT), delegations from Niger and Morocco, and from the Romanian and Chinese communist parties.

The following were included among the slogans raised in the People's House:

- Yes to Unity in Diversity--No to Sterile Regionalism and No to Demobilizing Tribalism;

- Hail to Division--the Proper Man at the Proper Place;

- Party Members, Less Folklore and More Responsibility.

It was in this mood that Deputy Casimir Tapsoba, secretary general of the Ouagadougou section, was the first speaker to present the traditional welcoming message.

Following the opening speech delivered by Malo Traore, secretary general of the Voltan Democratic Union, section of the African Democratic Rally (UDV-RDA), the floor was given to sister political organizations.

The first to take the floor was Emmanuel Zoma, national secretary general of the National Union for the Defense of Democracy (UNDD). He began by thanking the secretary general and the political bureau of the UDV-RDA for the invitation extended to his political group. Deputy Emmanuel Zoma then pointed out that the UNDD and the UDV-RDA are two fraternal parties for more than one reason: First, because the UNDD members have been, at one point or another, members of the UDV-RDA; second, because of a similarity between the programs of the two parties; finally, the dates chosen for holding the congress. Actually, let us recall that the last UNDD congress took place on 25, 26, and 27 January 1980.

The UNDD also acknowledges that the RDA promoted the independence of African countries. Zoma emphasized that the house in which the opening ceremony of the Seventh UDV-RDA Congress was held and in which the closing ceremony will take place is the creation of this great party, even though, by the force of circumstances, it is known as People's House.

On behalf of the UNDD Emmanuel Zoma welcomed the presence in this ceremony of Philippe Yace, president of the Ivory Coast National Assembly and secretary general of the PDCI-RDA, representing President Houphouet Boigny, president of the RDA.

To tell the truth, the UNDD secretary general emphasized, we must state that the RDA is a democratic rally and is frequently united with a group as is the case with the UDV-RDA in Upper Volta. The UNDD is a union as well. However, he added, in Upper Volta the people do not appear to be united.

According to Deputy Emmanuel Zoma the will to unite and the real union of the hearts can come only from the men and women involved in politics. He then pointed out that his party is open to an entirely viable solution to the problem of a union based on a development program. This availability, he emphasized, has existed since the elections.

Finally, noting that the topic of the Seventh Regular Congress of the UDV-RDA is the same as that of the last UNDD congress, held last January at dates which happily coincided, he wished that the present congress would lead to the triumph of ideals beneficial to the Upper Volta. "National unity and democracy are reasons for all the sons of this country to work hand in hand for its economic and social development."

Following Deputy Zoma, Henri Guissou, member of the political bureau of the FPV (Voltan Progressive Front) spoke on behalf of the national secretary general of the group.

Having apologized for the absence of the secretary general of the FPV, temporarily outside the country, Guissou stated to be happy to address the Seventh UDV-RDA Congress on behalf of his party and to present to the congress fraternal militant greetings. Like his predecessor, Henri Guissou welcomed the presence of President Philippe Yace and of the illustrious personalities who answered the UDV-RDA invitation. He emphasized the topical nature of the theme of the congress which is, let us recall, "Democracy in Unity for Development," and wished full success to the congress which will end its proceedings on the 27th.

Following the addresses by the representatives of the legal parties, a special honor was granted to political groups which, according to the constitution, have not been extant for a while.

It was thus that Welete Issa Pale, minister of rural development and leader of the former PRA [African Regroupment Party] took the floor on behalf of the members of his political family to welcome the Seventh UDV-RDA Congress. Welete Pale stated, on this occasion, that he wanted to be very brief and was waiting for the proper time to speak in greater detail and depth. Nevertheless, he warmly honored Philippe Yace and, through him, President Felix Houphouet Boigny, RDA president, as well as all the other personalities representing their parties and countries at this congress. Noteworthy in this short speech was the statement according to which the EX-PRA has adopted the ideals of the RDA. This statement triggered the lengthy applause of the thousands of people who had taken over the big amphitheater of the People's House.

He was followed by Moussa Kargougou, minister of foreign affairs, who spoke on behalf of the members of the former National Union of Independents (UNI). Kargougou pointed out first that the present congress is being held at a time when both internal and external circumstances make it particularly important.

For this reason he thanked the UDV-RDA leaders for offering him the opportunity, first as member of the presidential majority and, subsequently, as the spokesman for the ex-UNI, to proclaim his support of the Seventh Congress.

Like his predecessors, Kargougou also paid homage to President Houphouet Boigny as well as all the founders of the RDA and the chiefs of state who, within the framework of the defense of democracy, sent their representatives to the UDV-RDA congress.

Kargougou concluded his speech by publicly acknowledging the total support of the UNI of the UDV-RDA.

He was followed by Dr Nouhoun Sigue, leader of the former Popular Action Group (GAP) who spoke on behalf of the following former political groups: the PRN [National Regroupment Party] and the PRA [African Regroupment Party]. Sigue stated that following a thorough study of the situation, the political groups on behalf of which he was addressing the Seventh UDV-RDA Congress adopt the ideals of the UDV and support that party. Let us also note that from the speech by Dr Nouhoun Sigue, who was already sporting the UDV-RDA badge, the public learned that following the congress, the UDV-RDA would change its name to PDV-RDA.

A committee for support of General Lamizana, President of the Republic, also presented its greetings to the Seventh UDV-RDA Congress.

This was followed by the foreign delegations. The first speaker was Philippe Yace, president of the National Assembly and secretary general of the PDCI-RDA, representing the chief of state of the Ivory Coast.

"It is said that there is no deeper friendship than the one which is born on the battlefield," he stated, emphasizing the struggles waged by the RDA members in Upper Volta and the Ivory Coast for the liberation of their respective countries from the colonial yoke. He expressed the happiness he felt as head of his country's delegation to the UDV-RDA congress.

He repeated the fraternal greetings and encouragements of the father of the RDA, President Houphouet, who has ties of deep friendship with General Lamizana.

He also emphasized the need for solidarity between the Ivory Coast and Upper Volta, based on the history of the two countries and the rich potential of our country, before stipulating that he had been mandated by

President Felix Houphouet Boigny to announce to the congress how happy he was for the efforts made to achieve the unification of all living forces in Upper Volta. Yace then recalled that to the Ivory Coast chief of state the dialogue is the weapon of the strong. He also paid due homage to the great first generation members of the RDA in our country, some of whom, despite their advanced age, are firmly following their militant path. President Philippe Yace was, above all, very enthusiastic hearing the statements of affiliation publicly made by the former political groups.

In turn, Gachin Mivedor, member of the political bureau and permanent director of the Togolese People's Rally (RPT) and chief of the Togolese delegation, spoke of the links of friendship existing between the Upper Volta and Togo as a result of the great efforts invested in the joint socioeconomic fight launched by the two countries. He then expressed the pleasure felt by the Togolese leader from the invitation extended to him. He then wished that decisions benefiting the Voltan people would come out of the Seventh UDV-RDA Congress.

The delegates of the Guinean Democratic Party, the Mali People's Democratic Union (UDPM), the Republic of Niger, and Morocco, spoke in turn, particularly emphasizing the relations existing between their respective countries and Upper Volta, expressing their unconditional support of the UDV-RDA, and the President of the Republic General Aboubacar Sangoule Lamizana. Romania was represented by its minister of higher education who is also a member of the political bureau of the Romanian Communist Party.

Following the speeches, a number of messages sent by Voltan personalities were read, including those of His Majesty Moro Naba Kougri, our ambassador to Luxembourg, and of friendly countries such as the PRC, and the Netherlands.

The meeting was adjourned slightly after 1300 hours.

[27 Mar 1980, pp 1, 9, 12]

[Text] In principle it is today that the Eighth RDA Congress is to close. This is in principle, for it is also today that the delegates to the congress are scheduled to do most of the work through the examination of commission reports in plenary meetings. Four workshops have been in operation, some of them from the day of the opening, while others since yesterday, working on four topics:

- Unity: workshop chaired by Dr Ali Barraud, at People's House;

- Democracy: commission chaired by President Gerard Kango Ouedraogo, at his Nemnin home;

- Development: chaired by Dr Joseph Conombo, at the OPEV;

- Statutes and internal regulations: chaired by Domba Konate, at the Chamber of Commerce.

In fact, most of these commissions would have been chaired by party technocrats, since the titular heads were frequently asked to engage in other discussions.

Yesterday the first three commissions were finding it difficult to formulate the structure of their topics whereas the commission on statutes, conversely, was working on draft projects which, in the opinion of some congress members, were not about to be changed substantially.

For example, the draft statutes provide interesting data on the following:

- The title: The Voltan Democratic Party (PDV) will replace the title Voltan Democratic Union (UDV). This confirms our own hypotheses (see L'OBSERVATEUR, Tuesday, 25 March 1980).

- The National Political Bureau (BPN) will consist of at least 70 members and most likely, the highest position will be that of the general secretariat.

Let us note that on the occasion of the congress, the chief of state met with the heads of the foreign delegations. These audiences were conducted somewhat discreetly.

Finally, let us point out that following the closing of the congress, His Majesty Moro Naba Kougri will have a reception in honor of those same delegations.

Another event outside the congress, worth noting here, for it is of interest to a country sharing our own democratic experience: the Senegalese Democratic Party (PDS), an opposition party, threatened the socialist party, in power, with the launching of an immediate campaign for its overthrow, should it fail to accept the holding of a round table discussion on the establishment of a "Governmental National Front."

The PDS stated, in a communique published yesterday, that such a round table meeting should also discuss measures for improving the political, economic, financial, and social situation in the country.

These are equally topical subjects in Upper Volta. It is expected that the present congress of the governmental party will shed hopeful light on these subjects.

[28, 29, 30 Mar 80, p 1, special pp 1-3, p 8]

[Text] The poets of Liwaga have found another inspiration theme: Gerard Kango Ouedraogo was elected secretary general at the congress which also approved the conversion of the UDV-RDA into the PDV-RDA.

Thus, finally, he becomes the "maximum" leader of the party, something he always wanted to be.

While expecting, eventually, to determine some of the political and strategic consequence of the event, let us go back to the closing ceremony itself: it was planned for 1600 hours but, eventually, began some three-and-a-half hours later. It was held at People's House in the presence of all the high personalities who had attended the opening, including the chief of state (see L'OBSERVATEUR, 26 March 1980).

The new National Political Bureau will have some 80 members.

The second most important person attending the event was Dr Joseph Conombo, the prime minister, followed by the leaders of the other groups who merged with the UDV-RDA.

Following the presentation of the members of the bureau, the new secretary general of the PDV-RDA delivered the following speech:

There are times when silence and meditation express the intensity of an emotion better than words. However, it also seems to be very difficult to remain silent at such times.

Comrade congress members, I am aware of the weight of the responsibilities with which you have entrusted me.

Allow me to tell you, quite simply, that I accept them and that I thank you for your trust.

I am also aware of the importance of this moment to the RDA and, above all, its future. I believe in this future just as I believe in the future of Upper Volta. However, I am convinced of the need for the party--the majority party--to provide itself with the means for remaining a great party and to have the means to guide Upper Volta.

Yes, we are the majority party, and it is not unnecessary to recall this. We are those chosen by the Voltan nation to guide its destiny.

The UDV-RDA was a majority party. The PDV-RDA will be even more so. I welcome the patriots, the comrades who took part in the recent battle for a national concensus, for national unity and for the choice of an unchallenged guide in the person of General Aboubacar Sangoule Lamizana. I salute the heirs of Ouezzin Coulibaly and Nazi Boni, who are finally reunited.

I salute all those who have come freely to the RDA, for the consolidation of national unity.

With the broadening of our family, the first priority is to restructure the party, to make it a disciplined party, to turn it into an instrument for solidarity and efficiency in managing the affairs of the country.

It must be a disciplined party. It is not you, comrades of the UDV-RDA "Long March," that I have to remind what lack of discipline has cost the party for the past 20 years.

Torn inside, divided among destructive trends, undermined by internecine struggles from most basic to most petty, from one crisis to another, the UDV-RDA has lost even the memory of democratic centralism which is the structural foundation and strength of the RDA.

Comrades of the PDV-RDA, let us see to it that the democratic ideal is never violated from top to bottom. Let us see to it that never again will the elephant be dismembered.

Comrades, discipline goes together with solidarity. What does this mean? Solidarity is a basic choice. This means that in the case of the RDA discipline is not imposed, it is not a constraint, it is not maintained either by force or fear. Discipline in the RDA means to hold everyone responsible and making everyone feel responsible. Solidarity means properly understood responsibility. In a way, this is the cement without which no party, whether a majority party or even a single party, could try to lead the country.

Actually, what Upper Volta, a democratic country par excellence, needs is a responsible democracy.

Is the PDV-RDA ready to assume charge? If the answer is no, if the PDV-RDA does not feel up to guiding the country, let it be honest enough to say so, to resign, and to pass in favor of an impatient opposition.

If the PDV-RDA have accepted the mandate entrusted to it by the Voltan people, let it then provide itself with the means to pursue a proper national policy.

Whenever there have been consultations in Upper Volta, the people have clearly expressed their position by giving the political power to the RDA. On each such occasion the will of the people has been blocked at the implementation level, the level of the state administrative apparatus, by those who have always been put in the minority as a result of the universal sufferage.

This antidemocratic situation can no longer go on.

We are among those who profoundly believe in democracy, i.e., every passing day we realize that not all Voltans are for the RDA, and we try to respect their views.

However, when we refer to the people, and when the people, in one consultation after another, express their views without ambiguity, it cannot be allowed that the will of the people be frustrated by trickery at any given level. We shall respect officials who will bear this in mind, the way we shall respect their views should they differ from those of the RDA. They will not be bothered if they do their work honestly. However, should they, displeased at the decision of the people, try to execute a policy different from the one adopted by the people, at that point we shall display no weakness and will forcefully implement the mandate entrusted to us by the people.

Comrade congress members:

The proper implementation of the action program we have adopted calls for the party to put an end to this policy of neglect and rot which is becoming institutionalized.

Above all, let it not be assumed that the majority party is covering up most of the abuses or that it is disposed to cover them up. It finds it that much easier to fight them since it is not within its ranks, by far, that intrigue and corruption are most prevalent.

Comrades of the PDC-RDA, we bear great responsibility toward our base: the men and women of Upper Volta.

Comrades of the PDV-RDA, we have a tremendous responsibility toward our youth.

It is the Voltan peasant, the majority of the people, who are our base. They have given us their unreserved trust.

The majority party must, first of all, answer this thrust and justify this trust.

This is the reason for which our action program gives priority to economic development.

The economic development supported by the PDV-RDA has nothing in common with anarchic, savage, and uncontrolled capitalism, while remaining within the framework of the basic option as defined by the constitution.

Quite to the contrary, the PDV-RDA has chosen a controlled liberalism.

The objectives of this policy are the following:

- Food self-sufficiency;
- Concentrated industrialization; and
- Territorial planning.

Its means are following:

- The development of credit facilities for agriculture and animal husbandry;

- The optimum utilization of human, agricultural, and mining resources;

- The adaptation of the National Investments Code to territorial planning requirements.

Finally, the framework of this policy, forgetting priority to national requirements, will have to take into consideration our geographic location and our subregional commitments.

Comrades:

I said that we had great responsibility toward our women. Our heroic companions were present at the birth of the RDA. They are more numerous today, at a time when this family is expanding. I salute their steadiness, courage, and abnegation.

I salute their fighting spirit and discretion.

They have always answered our constant demands unless they anticipate them, indicating the path to follow.

They are our support and our recourse.

The party asks them to be numerous, more and more numerous, at each fighting position and at all levels of leadership for the sake of balance, action, and success.

Now as far as our youth is concerned, we must state that if we turn firmly to the future, it is for the sake of going toward this youth.

Economic development, social well-being, and cultural blossoming make sense only if they constitute the framework of tomorrow's life. We are at a stage when we must not merely speak for the youth but let it speak itself and make its contribution. The youth has always been the life force of the RDA.

The PDV-RDA will strengthen this option through the mobilization of its youth in fields, plants, and offices, wherever it may be, and at all levels.

In this end of the 20th century, when the RDA has behind it 34 years of struggle for freedom and dignity, the PDV-RDA turns to its youth and invites it to help to lay the foundations of the 20th century in the ideal of unity and solidarity of the continent.

This is a continent whose total liberation is becoming irreversibly apparent. Therefore, we must welcome the model birth of Zimbabwe under the leadership of the Patriotic Front. The PDV-RDA should continue to support the heroic struggle of its brothers in South Africa. It is for the sake of solidarity and fraternity that we have welcomed in this congress, with joy and pride, the delegation of

Togo
Niger
Mali
Guinea
Morocco
Libya
Romania and
China.

All these friends and brothers who were willing to come to Ouagadougou have given us, through their presence, the precious encouragement of their friendship.

Let me present to them, immediately, our apologies for the modesty of our reception due to the scarcity of our material facilities. May the warmth of our friendship and generosity of our hearts compensate somewhat the relative nature of the comfort they were offered in the course of their stay in our country.

Yet, African brothers, European friends, we thank you, above all, for having been willing to attend this congress.

However Voltan our step may be, it could not be separated from the steps you are taking in your own respective countries. In a world which is becoming ever more interdependent the dialogue among peoples is an integral part of development strategies.

This dialogue becomes the more important and richer when it is nurtured by the same ideals and fundamental ideas.

Coming to our country to attend our debates, you wanted to express your solidarity with the struggle we are conducting.

We are deeply grateful to you!

Allow me to greet more especially our RDA brothers whose number, quality, and zeal prove the vitality and hopefulness of our great African movement.

They are the heirs of those who, by the thousands, sparing no effort and, sometimes, at the cost of their lives, tirelessly worked for the dignity of the African person.

We salute here the memory of our heroes, of our martyrs, of our great people, of those who were the seed of our rally:

Mamadou Konate
Biaka Boda
Gabriel Dadie
Joseph Correah
Abdoulaye Diaw
Ouezzin Coulibaly
Philippe Zinda Kabore
Charles Nacuzon
Darsalam Diallo
Leon N'ba
Dominique Kabore
Tchikaya
Vinama Djibril
El Hadj Lansana Diakite
Gabriel Darbousier

Their names will echo for eternity as proved by your ovations.

Old companions for the struggle for independence or young members, enthusiastically pursuing the work of their fathers, beyond frontiers and beyond generations, the sign of the elephant rallies you.

I invite you to note this basic unity by rendering to the one who remains the father, admired and respected of our great family, President Felix Houphouet Boigny, the homage of your affection. Let our Ivory Coast comrades, in whose leading ranks I salute the presence of our brother Philippe Yace, the tireless companion of the "Old Man," pass on to the latter our filial and fraternal message.

May he be assured of our loyalty to the ideal of the democratic rally, within the Africanism which he taught us.

May all foreign delegations accept our thanks and give our fraternal and militant greetings to their leaders, their parties, and their peoples.

Long live the PDV.

Long live the RDA.

Long live Upper Volta, proud of its past and confident in its future.

Long live African solidarity!

Following is the membership of the National Political Bureau of the PDV-RDA nominated at the congress.

National Political Bureau

Honorary Presidents

Malo Malick Traore (honorary president for life)
Douani Sere
Daouda Dialle
Dr Ladji Traore
Christophe Kalenzaga
Sibiri Salembere
Rene Bagora Bassinga

National Political Bureau

Secretary General: Gerard Kango Ouedraogo
First Deputy Secretary General: Dr Joseph Conombo
Second " " " : Issa Pale Welete
Third " " " : Moussa Kargougou
Fourth " " " : Domba Konate
Political Commissioners: Dr Ali Barraud
Daouda Traore
Modou Sere
Bamina Georges Nebie
Dr El Hadj Rasmane Sawadogo
Political Secretary: Casimir Tapsoba
First Deputy Political Secretary: Ignace Kalmogo
Second " " " : Oumarou Dao
Third " " " : Anayan Guy Leopold
Fourth " " " : Nouhoun Barry
Fifth " " " : Moussa Ernest Ouedraogo

Foreign Relations Secretary: Georges Sanogoh
First Deputy Secretary: Hamado Nourou Diallo
Second " " : Denis Dabire
Third " " : Mamadou Simpore
Fourth " " : Dr Hama Boubacar

General Treasurer: Francois Daniel Bouda
First Deputy: Ouedraogo
Second " : Libya Alphonse Traore
Third " : El Hadj Yacouba Barraud

Secretary for Customary Affairs: His Majesty Mole Sorgho
First Deputy Secretary: His Majesty Nobila Ouedraogo
Second " " : Tinga Douamba
Third " " : Harouna Pondo
Fourth " " : Dicko Assane (chief of Tongomael)

Organization Secretary: Salif Ouedraogo
First Deputy Secretary: Laousseni Ouedraogo
Second " " : Rimpayassede B. Ouedraogo
Third " " : Maurice Gniko
Fourth " " : Kam Dim Etienne
Fifth " " : Lucien Kabore

Secretary for Economic Affairs: Celestin Magnini
First Deputy Secretary: Salia Sanon
Second " " : Pegue Sawadogo

Secretary for Social Affairs: Victor Ouedraogo
First Deputy Secretary: Diega Boki
Second " " : Alfred Banse

Secretary for Education and Civic Training: Moise Lankoande
First Deputy Secretary: Christophe Some
Second " " : Adrien Tapsoba
Third " " : Yacouboa Traore

Secretary for Propaganda: Kassoum Kargougou
First Deputy Secretary: Dr Nouhoun Sigue
Second " " : Bouake Konate
Third " " : Norbert Condombo
Fourth " " : Mme Bassolet
Fifth " " : Hama Halaide
Sixth " " : Saidou Toe
Seventh " " : Fassano Karambiri
Eighth " " : Prosper Kakfando
Ninth " " : I. Boureima
Tenth " " : Karim Gnankara

Secretary for the Press and Information: Paul Ismael Ouedraogo
First Deputy Secretary: Clement Somda
Second " " : Adama Kagambega
Third " " : Hamade Ouedraogo

Secretary for People's Organizations: Dr Gregoire Badjo
First Deputy Secretary: Zoumana Traore
Second " " : Paulin Batiano
Third " " : Christophe Ouattara
Fourth " " : Bissiri Kabore
Fifth " " : Robert Kabore
Sixth " " : Teophile Sawadogo
Seventh " " : Policarpe Nare

Secretary for Women's Affairs: Fatimata Traore
First Deputy Secretary: Mrs Dakio nee Gbicaba
Second " " : Widow Traore
Third " " : Miss Diallo Fatimata
Fourth " " : Mrs Bassolet
Fifth " " : Mrs Habibou Bilgo
Sixth " " : Mrs Some Nanon
Seventh " " : Mrs Moussoukoro

Secretary General for Youth Affairs: Leopold Sie Kambire
First Deputy Secretary: Joseph Dieudonne Ouedraogo
Second " " : Pr Ibrahim Sanogo
Third " " : Benjamin Sawadogo
Fourth " " : Mahamadi Ouedraogo
Fifth " " : Boukary Koanda
Sixth " " : Tinourba Madiega
Seventh " " : Oumar Lamizana
Eighth " " : Jean Ouedraogo
Ninth " " : [illegible] Yugbare
Tenth " " : Babou Ido
Eleventh " " : Sibiri Oumar Traore

Secretary for Cultural Affairs: Chairman: Harouna Traore
First Deputy Secretary: Martin Combari
Second " " : Louis Malgoubri

Secretary for Professional Organizations: Chairman: Gnabkieta Kabore
First Deputy Chairman: Alidou Maiga
Second " " : Alfred Sawadogo
Third " " : Joseph Kankako
Fourth " " : Dramane Sanou

Auditing Commissioner: Joseph Minoungou
First Deputy Commissioner: Gaston Sinon
Second " " : Laurent Ouedraogo
Third " " : Denis Zongo

The meeting closed with a notice that President Sangoule Lamizana is an officially declared member of the party.

5157
CSO: 4400

TEACHERS UNION MEETING, MOTIONS REPORTED

Ougadougou L'OBSERVATEUR in French 11, 12, 13 Apr 80 pp 1, 8, 9

[Text] The union board of the SNEAHV (National Union of African Teachers of Upper Volta) for the second quarter met several days before Easter.

After 2 days of debate, the national bureau of this union sent us a press announcement and a certain number of motions which it adopted and which it wants to be communicated to the public at large.

The union meeting for the end of the second quarter of the SNEAHV was held at the Worker Education Section in Ouagadougou between 0900 on Thursday, 3 April, and Friday, 4 April 1980.

Out of the 52 sections presently making up our organization, 49 were present at this board meeting.

After hearing, discussing, and adopting the general, financial, and press reports, the union board heard the sections before breaking up into three commissions (demands, general policy, organization of 26th congress and theme) in order to study the future prospects and to draw up the directives for the national bureau for the last quarter of our union year.

Looking at the future prospects, the union board for the end of the second quarter took note of the government's indifference toward our claims in spite of our warning strike of 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29 February 1980.

It denounced the tacit refusal of the minister of national education and culture to meet with the duly elected representatives of the national education workers whom they were appointed to represent.

It condemned and rejected the government's disregard and diversion; through our national education minister, the government had rejected the work of its own commission under the pretext of utopianism, cynically refusing to examine the proposals of the SNEAHV dated 19 April 1979, once again postponing the solution to our problems for an n-th commission to meet at some undetermined date.

In view of this systematic determination to ignore our problems, the union board for the end of the second quarter adopted the serious decision of making the results of this academic-year end dependent, as of 24 April 1980, on the prior satisfaction of our legitimate demands.

Fully aware of the social-political implications of this decision, the SNEAHV once again hopes that it will not have to carry out this decision. The government now has the ball.

Pupils and students as well as the parents of students, workers of all kinds: the present decision, into which the government has forced us, is not yet, in our opinion, a rupture of the dialogue and we reaffirm our full readiness to engage in an objective search for solutions to our problems.

For the effective upgrading of the teaching profession and for the safeguarding of the schools of Upper Volta.

With bitterness we deplore the fratricidal conflict which is now taking place in Chad as a result of the expansionist moves by Libya and France.

We also with deep emotion followed the bloody events in Mali of which our fellow teachers and students were the main victims.

In Senegal and Liberia, the neocolonial regimes, now at bay, are trying in vain to crush the popular struggles.

II. National Policy

(a) Foreign policy

The mendacious policy of our country is developing the eternal spirit of those who must always be assisted, thus wiping out our capacity to think and act for ourselves and by ourselves.

We denounce and we demand the reconsideration of the aid and cooperation agreements with France, the interference of the secretary-general of the PDCI-RDA [Democratic Party of Ivory Coast--African Democratic Rally] in the person of Philippe Yace which interferes with our country's political pluralism.

(b) Domestic policy

We note with regret that nepotism and corruption are becoming a system of government and that the unpunished embezzlement of funds and wrongdoing wipe out professional conscience and promote a do-nothing attitude.

The creation of associations for development of one region or another of the country is a note of alarm in view of the inability of our neocolonial governments to solve the most elementary and collective problems of the nation, that is to say, food, clothing, housing, education, eating and drinking to eliminate hunger, etc.

The multiple tiny little projects denote a lack of planning on the national level and accentuate regionalism.

We recommend a policy of national independence which will permit strict price controls, preventing the shipment of our cereals toward neighboring countries.

Conclusion

The SNEAHV, an anti-imperialist mass movement, with every ounce of its energy denounces the reactionary practices, the untimely interventions of the big powers in the developing countries.

We recognize that the OAU and the Africans alone have the right to settle African problems beyond any foreign interference or restraint.

In the matter of national policy, we believe that improvisation and trial-and-error are not proper working methods for moving a country toward a better tomorrow.

The Board.

Motions

Motion on embezzlement

Whereas the poor management of public affairs,

Whereas the poor utilization of foreign aid to the detriment of the true beneficiaries,

Whereas that even when the guilty are exposed, they are not punished,

Whereas in most cases the persons responsible are the government officials themselves,

The union board meeting for the second quarter, held on 3 and 4 April 1980, at the worker education office in Ouagadougou,

With every ounce of energy condemns the complicitous and notorious indifference of our authorities toward this situation, thus encouraging the

pillage of public assets,

Urges the government to assume its responsibilities for the higher interest of the working masses.

General Motion

Whereas the antidemocratic and unconstitutional character of the well-known bill on the regulation of the right to strike,

Whereas the absence of a viable social policy leading to the litany of strikes by the worker masses,

Whereas the pauperization of the masses due to runaway inflation deriving from the international and domestic economic situation,

The board meeting for the end of the second quarter, held on 3 and 4 April 1980, at the worker education office in Ouagadougou,

Urges all workers of Upper Volta to become aware of the continual decline of their living conditions,

Issues an appeal for vigilance and unity among all workers in their fight for the achievement of their just demands.

Motion D on the Statement by Philippe Yace of the PDT of the National Association of Ivory Coast on the Occasion of the Seventh Congress of the UDV [Voltan Democratic Union]-PDV [Voltan Democratic Party]-RDA

Whereas Upper Volta is an independent and sovereign state,

Whereas this independence is not subject to any influence under any pretext whatsover,

Whereas the statement by Mr Philippe Yace constitutes flagrant interference in the domestic political life of Upper Volta,

Whereas said statement confirms rumours presenting Upper Volta as the servant of Ivory Coast,

Whereas it is aimed at dictating an Ivorian-style political orientation to the people of Volta who freely opted for active democracy,

The board meeting for the end of the second quarter, held at Ouagadougou on 3 and 4 April 1980, at the Worker Education Center, condemns this discourteous insolence toward our people,

Puts the Ivorian authorities on notice as regards any attempt at neocolonization,

Vehemently denounces the interference of Ivory Coast in the affairs of our sovereign state,

With every ounce of energy condemns any interference, regardless of where it comes from, in our national political life,

Appeals to the conscience of the authorities of Volta under the Third Republic to safeguard our national dignity.

The Board.

5058
CSO: 4400

ARRESTS IN SHABA FOR MISAPPROPRIATIONS

Kinshasa ELIMA in French 16 Apr 80 p 1

[Report: "Over 500,000 Zaires Misappropriated in ONPTZ-Shaba"

[Text] Substantial public funds from postal and telecommunications services of the ONPTZ [National Postal and Telecommunications Services of Zaire]--Shaba, have taken place, an authorized source in that office has reported.

The misappropriation of over 500,000 zaires were committed by some cadres within this office in conspiracy with individuals on the outside.

A control team set up by the Postal, Telegraph and Telephones Department, which has been conducting an investigation within the postal and telecommunications service in Lubumbashi for the past week has discovered several cases of misappropriations. The files on those cases will be submitted in the near future to the justice authorities.

Last year nine agents of the ONPTZ-Shaba were prosecuted for misappropriations.

They were the citizens Kabembo Muntu, a telecommunications accountant who misappropriated Z 93,064.84 [80], Tshimpoko Muendji, regional director of telecommunications, who misappropriated Z 114,622.30, with the complicity of Sungu Bila, Ndju Kendi Lenga, division chief at the monetary items office, who misappropriated Z 36,000, Dimumbi Omokoko, chief postal collector, who misappropriated Z 98,000, and Okitana Vunguyi, telegraph operator, who misappropriated Z 56,000.

The detention of these agents will be followed by others at the completion of the current investigation, taking into consideration the objectives of the executive council which recommended strictness and management order in all vital sectors in the country.

5157
CSO: 4400

REORGANIZATION OF SECURITY SERVICES

Kinshasa ELIMA in French 23, 24, 25, 26-27 Apr 80

[Presidential ordinance: "Reorganization of Zaire Security Services"]

[23 Apr 80, pp 1, 7]

[Text] Mobutu Sese Seko, president-founder and president of the republic, and army corps general, signed on Monday three ordinances reorganizing the National Documentation Center through the establishment of a National Research and Investigation Center (CNRI) and a National Intelligence Department (SNI), appointing citizen Pelendo Beledu Mawe secretary general of the National Security Council.

The reorganization of the National Documentation Center (CND) follows the remarks formulated by the president-founder in his 4 February speech on the operation of the security service.

In accordance with Monday's presidential decisions, two security organs have been set up to replace the CND. The first will deal exclusively with internal security (the CNRI) while the other will deal with external security (SNI).

Following are the texts of the presidential ordinances:

Ordinance No 80-074 of 21 April 80 on the creation of a National Research and Investigation Center "CNRI," and the National Intelligence Department SNI, instead of the National Documentation Center.

In accordance with constitutional articles 39 and 42,

In accordance with Ordinance-Law No 69-037, dated 9 August 1969, replacing the National Security with the National Documentation Center,

In accordance with Ordinance No 76-306, dated 18 October 1976, establishing the rights and organization of the National Documentation Center, and

In accordance with Ordinance No 79-055, dated 6 March 1979, amending Ordinance No 76-301, dated 18 October 1976, establishing the duties and the organization of the National Documentation Center,

The president-founder of the Popular Revolutionary Movement and President of the Republic issues the following

Order:

Article 1:

A National Research and Investigation Center is hereby established, referred to by its initials "CNRI," and a National Intelligence Department, referred to by the initials SNI. These shall be two independent and autonomous institutions replacing the National Documentation Center.

Article 2:

The National Research and Investigation Center and the National Intelligence Department shall be centralized public services each of which shall be administratively and financially autonomous.

Their duties, organization, and personnel shall be based on an ordinance issued by the president of the Popular Revolutionary Movement and President of the Republic.

Article 3:

The CNRI shall replace the former internal department of the National Documentation Center.

It shall be headed by a high official to be known as the general administrator who will be appointed and, if necessary, replaced by the president of the Popular Revolutionary Movement and President of the Republic.

The general administrator shall have the rank of state commissioner and shall be directly answerable to the president of the Popular Revolutionary Movement and President of the Republic.

He shall be assisted by a deputy general administrator.

Article 4:

The National Intelligence Department shall replace the former external department of the National Documentation Center.

It shall be headed by a senior official with the title of general administrator who shall be appointed and, if necessary, relieved of his functions

by the president of the Popular Revolutionary Movement and President of the Republic.

The general administrator shall have the rank of state commissioner and will be answerable directly to the president of the Popular Revolutionary Movement and President of the Republic.

He shall be assisted by a deputy general administrator.

Article 5:

Ordinance-Law No 69-037 of 9 August 1969 is hereby repealed.

Article 6:

The present ordinance shall be effective as of the date of its signature.

Issued in Kinshasa on 21 April 1980.

Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu Wa Za Banga,
Army Corps General

[24 Apr 80, pp 1, 7]

[Text] Last Monday, the president-founder of the MPR and President of the Republic, citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, signed three ordinances on the reorganization of Zairian security services. According to the ordinances two security organs were set up instead of the CND (National Documentation Center); one of them will deal with internal security (CNRI), while the other will be in charge of external security (SNI). Having published in our previous edition the ordinance on the creation of the two new agencies, following are the texts of two other ordinances, one of which amends the membership of the National Security Council, while the other deals with the nomination of the secretary general of the CNS:

Ordinance No 80-077, dated 21 April 1980, amending Ordinance No 79-047, dated 6 March 1979, on the creation of a National Security Council.

In accordance with the constitution and, particularly, constitutional articles 39 and 42; and

In accordance with Ordinance No 70-047 of 6 March 1979 on the establishment of a National Security Council, the president-founder of the Popular Revolutionary Movement and President of the Republic issues the following

Order:

Article 1: The stipulations of Article 1 of Ordinance No 79-047, dated 6 March 1979, are hereby amended and supplemented as follows:

Article 1: A National Security Council is hereby established under the direct authority of the President of the Republic.

The National Security Council shall include all the specialized services in matters of security as well as the services and departments of the executive committee, encompassed and specifically listed in the present ordinance.

Article 2: The stipulations of Articles 2, 7 and 8 of Ordinance No 79-047, of 6 March 1979, on the establishment of a National Security Council, are hereby invalidated and replaced by the following stipulations:

Article 2: The National Security Council shall have the following task: to formulate, in accordance with the instructions of the president of the Popular Revolutionary Movement and President of the Republic, the general policy of the country on matters of security, and to discuss all problems related to internal and external security of the state and the measures which it deems necessary to insure it.

Said deliberation of the National Security Council shall be implemented by decision of the President of the Republic.

[25 Apr 80, pp 1, 7]

[Text] Following is the third part of the presidential ordinances on the reorganization of Zaire's security services.

Article 2: The stipulations of Article 3 of the above-mentioned ordinance shall be amended and supplemented as follows:

Article 3: The following shall be members of the National Security Council:

- the First State Commissioner;
- the State Commissioner for Foreign Affairs;
- the State Commissioner for the Administration of the Territory and for Political Organization;
- the State Commissioner for Defense;
- the State Commissioner for Justice;
- the General Administrator of the CNRI;
- the Administrator of the SNI;
- the Special Council of the President of the Republic on Matters of Security;
- the Chief of General Staff of the Zaire Armed Forces;
- the Chief of General Staff of the National Police;
- the Secretary General of the CNS.

A security committee shall be set up within the National Security Council.

The following shall attend the meetings of the security committee:

- the General Administrator of the CNRI or his deputy;
- the General Administrator of the SNI or his deputy;
- the Director of Military Intelligence or his deputy;
- the Secretary General of the CNS;
- any other person, member or nonmember of the National Security Council, invited by the president to attend the meeting of the security committee.

Article 4: The stipulations of Article 4 of the above-mentioned ordinance shall be amended and supplemented as follows:

Article 4: A general secretariat shall be set up by the National Security Council. It shall be headed by a secretary general who shall be appointed or, if necessary, relieved of his functions by the President of the Republic.

Its purpose shall be the following:

- To prepare, in accordance with the instructions of the president of the Popular Revolutionary Movement and President of the Republic, the agenda for the meeting of the National Security Council and to draft the minutes of said meetings;

- To file the documents dealing with the security of the state put at its disposal.

Should the secretary general of the National Security Council be absent or prevented from attending a meeting, he shall be replaced by a member of the National Security Council appointed by the president of the Popular Revolutionary Movement and President of the Republic.

Should the president of the Popular Revolutionary Movement, President of the Republic, be absent or prevented from attending, the most senior member of the CNS in the national hierarchy shall chair the meeting.

[26-27 Apr 80, p 7]

[Text] Following is the final part of the presidential ordinances on the reorganization of Zaire's security services.

Article 5: The stipulations of Article 5 of Ordinance No 79-047, dated 6 March 1979, shall be amended and supplemented as follows:

Article 5: The president of the Popular Revolutionary Movement and President of the Republic shall be assisted by a special advisor on security matters.

The special advisor shall be appointed and, if necessary, relieved of his functions, by the president of the Popular Revolutionary Movement and President of the Republic.

He shall be directly answerable to the President of the Republic and shall have the rank of state commissioner.

Article 6: The stipulations of Article 6 of said ordinance shall be amended and supplemented as follows:

Article 6: The National Security Council shall meet at least once monthly.

The security committee shall meet at least twice monthly and as frequently as required by the circumstances.

In the latter case it shall meet either if summoned by the president of the Popular Revolutionary Movement and President of the Republic, or at the specific request of one of its members.

The chairmanship of the meetings of the security committee shall be assumed by the committee members on a rotation basis.

The secretariat of the security committee shall be assured by the secretary general of the CNS or, should he be absent or prevented from attending, by a member designated by the chairman of the meeting.

Article 7: In accordance with the new stipulations of the present ordinance, the operational facilities acquired by the National Security Council shall be shared by the National Research and Investigation Center and the National Intelligence Department.

Article 8: Articles 9, 10, 11 and 12 or Ordinance No 79-047, dated 6 March 1979, shall become, respectively, Articles 7, 8, 9, and 10.

Article 9: The present ordinance shall become effective as of the date of its signature.

Issued in Kinshasa on 21 April 1980.

Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu Wa Za Banga, Army Corps General.

Ordinance No 80-079, dated 21 April 1980, on the appointment of a secretary general of the National Security Council.

The president-founder of the Popular Revolutionary Movement and President of the Republic, in accordance with the constitution and, particularly, Article 40, and in accordance with amended and supplemented Ordinance No 79-047, dated 6 March 1979, on the establishment of a National Security

Council, issues the following

Order:

Article 1:

Citizen Pelendo Beledu Mawe is hereby appointed Secretary General of the National Security Council.

Article 2:

Any previous stipulati · conflicting with the present ordinance, which becomes effective as of the date of signature, are hereby revoked.

Issued in Kinshasa, 21 April 1980.

Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu Wa Za Banga, Army Corps General.

[illegible]
[illegible]

NO BUYERS FOR NORD-KIVU FOOD

Kinshasa ELIMA in French 24 Apr 80 p 3

[Report: "No Purchasers From North Kivu Food Products"]

[Text] Farmers and other producers in the north Kivu subarea are experiencing tremendous difficulties in selling their crops, due to lack of customers, citizen Lokomba Kumwadeboni, north Kivu subregional commissioner, currently attending a special meeting of the MPR-Kivu Regional Committee, in Bukavu, stated.

On this subject, citizen Lokomba emphasized the efforts of the toiling masses of the north Kivu subarea to increase their output. Nevertheless, he deplored the lack of initiative in utilizing all the possibilities offered by the markets of the northern part of the area.

Specifically, this applies to the Masereka settlement in the Lubero zone which produces barley, wheat, vegetables, and laurel leaves which are greatly appreciated for their exquisite flavor.

The north Kivu subregional commissioner let it be understood that merchants and other businessmen interested in such matters would be welcome to jointly study the ways and means for the formulation of a program for channeling such goods to the major consumption centers.

He added that the activities of the National Foodstuffs Office (ONPV) should be more encouraging, dynamic, and operative, making better use of linking the peasant masses, producing such goods, and the national consumers.

Citizen Lokomba was optimistic as to the implementation of the minimum program for 1980, considering, he stated, that the north Kivu subregion is, and will remain, the granary of the Kivu region.

5157
CSO: 4400

MUGABE PLEDGES SUPPORT TO SA LIBERATION MOVEMENT

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 May 80 p 1

[Text] The Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, has pledged his Government's diplomatic and political support for the liberation movement in South Africa.

To further this objective in South Africa, he said, his Government would cooperate with other states in Southern Africa.

Zimbabwe would also join its neighbours in promoting economic progress on the sub-continent.

In a statement yesterday to mark Africa Liberation Day, the Prime Minister said the achievement of independence in Zimbabwe had "turned the growing tide of liberation sharply against the Republic of South Africa."

"What were buffer states are now frontiers of freedom," he said.

Mr Mugabe said his Government intended to play its part in supporting the freedom movement in South Africa by providing "diplomatic and political support through the channels of the Organisation of African Unity and its liberation committee".

"We will also do our utmost to provide adequate and accurate information to the OAU members about the process of events in this region of southern Africa.

"To further this objective we will co-operate with all other freedom states.

"We believe the war of Namibia could be brought to an end speedily on the basis of a proposal submitted by the United Nations and accepted by SWAPO as a basis for discussions with South Africa.

"The leadership of SWAPO, which alone stands for the interests of the majority population in Namibia, has taken a responsible position on the constitutional issues which should allay the fears of the South Africans.

"The alternative to a just constitutional settlement is an escalation of the conflict between the people of Namibia--under the leadership of SWAPO--and the Government of South Africa," the Prime Minister said.

Mr Mugabe said he welcomed the drive by other African states towards economic independence and self-sufficiency in Africa. Zimbabwe would join its neighbours to promote economic progress in transport, power, tourism, food storage and other matters.

He said that if duty permitted he would lead a large Government delegation to the next OAU summit at Freetown, Sierra Leone, next month when the new state of Zimbabwe will be admitted to full membership.

"We will become the 50th member of the OAU and take our place as a free and independent nation alongside our brothers and sisters in Africa," he said.

Pride

He said the occasion would be a moment of great pride for people in this country. It would also mark the end of a long era of colonialism, foreign rule and racial discrimination in Zimbabwe.

Mr Mugabe said the liberation of Africa had been the cornerstone of the OAU policy and programmes. Africa Liberation Day was celebrated first and foremost for the successful inauguration of the OAU in 1968.

"Even the major powers have now taken into account the position of the OAU on valuable international issues in formulating their own foreign policies," he added.

In citing the achievements of the organisation, he said in 17 years 20 African states had become independent.

"We in Zimbabwe owe a great debt of gratitude to the liberation committee in particular and the OAU as a whole, for the support they gave to our liberation movement for the last 17 years, and especially to our armed struggle since 1966.

"Special tribute is due to the frontline states who, as a vanguard of the OAU in the prosecution of the national struggle in this region, bore the burden of raids and air attacks and yet were never deterred," Mr Mugabe said.

He read his statement to newsmen at his official residence in Salisbury yesterday.

The Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, has been chosen as the Newsmaker of the Year by the Southern African Society of Journalists, it was announced at a banquet in Johannesburg. Mr John Mattison, president of the society, said Mr Mugabe's victory in the elections had been one of the most significant events in Southern Africa's history.--Iana.

CSO: 4420

NKOMO REASSURES CHURCHMEN, CALLS FOR COOPERATION

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 26 May 80 p 1

[Text] Bulawayo--The Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Joshua Nkomo, yesterday called for co-operation between churches and government and assured church leaders that "no Zimbabwean Government will ever try to destroy churches".

Addressing a packed interdenominational congregation at a thanksgiving service at St Pius Catholic Church, Bulawayo, the Minister dismissed allegations that nationalist movements were opposed to the church.

He said: "There have been allegations that people called 'comrades' are against the church, but today their allegations have been proved false. If you fight against a wrong-doer who happens to be a church leader, it is not the church that you are fighting against but evil."

Calling for peace and reconciliation, Mr Nkomo said there were too many incidents involving inter-party political violence and grenades being thrown at various targets.

This, he said, had to stop because the independence of Zimbabwe, which was the reason for the war, had now been achieved.

"A government comes and goes, but Zimbabwe has come for good," he said. What was important was the birth of a new nation, not the establishment of a government.

He said that it was not for the present government that people fought for, but for the achievement of their freedom and independence.

On racial relations, the Minister said it was wrong for Africans to reverse the discrimination that existed before.

Mr Nkomo said many white Zimbabweans had often asked him what would happen to them when majority rule came. His answer had been that they should remain in the country as equal citizens.

"If you have black and white cattle in a kraal, you never ask what is going to happen either because they are all cattle. Similarly, black and white people have to live together because they are all people."

Mr Nkomo said all divisions based on colour or tribe had to go because God never created race groups or tribes. Neither did He give them names like "Kalanga, Bemba or Ndau". He created people.

He said Church leaders must show their love for mankind, saying, "If you are God's people, do not leave that love in this building."

The service, organised by the Bulawayo Ministers' Fraternal, was also attended by the Minister of Natural Resources and Water Development, Mr J. W. Msika; PF national chairman Mr S. Munodwafa; and advisory board chairman Mr Nick Mabodlo.

Bishop R. Mercer and the Rev. S. B. Nxumalo officiated and Bishop J. C. Shiri was the main preacher.

Several thousand enthusiastic PF supporters lined the streets and shouted slogans as Mr Nkomo left the church for his Bulawayo home.

CSO: 4420

ASSEMBLY, SENATE PROCEEDINGS REPORTED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 28 May 80 pp 4, 5

[Text] The ZANU (PF) Chief Whip, Mr Freddie Shava, yesterday warned the Government and political parties of Zimbabwe to prepare the nation for an eventual military attack by South Africa.

In his maiden speech starting yesterday's debate on the President's speech, Mr Shava called on the Government to support the liberation forces of South Africa.

He warned: "We must bear in mind that military successes of the liberation armies in South Africa will make nonsense of the theory of peaceful co-existence with that country, because South Africa will eventually panic into military action against us to evade defeat by the liberation forces.

"We members here present and other structures of Government and political parties must prepare the nation for the eventuality," he said.

Mr Shava outlined a programme which included the politicization of Zimbabweans particularly the rural population, to make the people appreciate that "the struggle by the South Africa people is also our responsibility."

"We must serve the interests of the black and white oppressed in South Africa. We have a duty to offer the South African liberation movements--the African National Congress and the Pan African Congress--moral, political and diplomatic support in our day-to-day relations with other nations and individuals," he said.

Zimbabwe also had to offer them material assistance through the OAU, he said.

Mr Shava congratulated the Zimbabwe Cricket Union for voluntarily severing sporting links with South Africa and also expressed his appreciation to the country's swimming union, which has also cut its ties.

Mr Shava accused Western governments and multinational companies of hoping to turn Zimbabwe's Government into a puppet administration.

While he welcomed the Government's policy of non-alignment, Mr Shava said it was necessary to "make our correct ideological light shine widely and clearly in order to make the socialist approach in the movement formidable."

He also called for the Prevention of Corruption Act to be broadened and stiffened.

Maize Price

Mr Bill Irvine (R.F., Marlborough) told the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Denis Norman, that the country's maize producers would need a planting price of maize of at least $120 a tonne, if the country was to go any way to restoring its capacity to feed itself and produce a surplus for export.

Mr Irvine detailed the maize production crisis facing Zimbabwe and said he estimated that by the end of the next Grain Marketing Board year, the

country would have to import a maximum of 300 000 tonnes of maize.

He said the price of South African white maize landed at Bulawayo was $158 a tonne, and would cost the country $30m. in foreign exchange.

He said South Africa had been "very kind" to sell its maize to Zimbabwe at a price considerably lower than that sold to other countries.

"In view of some remarks in this House, I wonder whether they will be so kind next year." Mr Irvine asked. He predicted a substantial price increase next year.

He said maize theft was a serious problem.

Mr Irvine urged the Government to drop the "massive" subsidy on roller meal (about $30 m.) and said an increase of 1c a kg to the consumer would reduce the amount of the subsidy by $10 a tonne.

He accused the former government of instituting "deplorable" housing schemes, and gave the instance of Salisbury's Glen View urban area which, he said, "should never have been allowed to start", as it expected workers to live under what were virtually "slum conditions".

On the problems facing the country's farmers, Mr Irvine rebuked the Minister of Agriculture, saying: "I suggest the Minister of Agriculture spend some time dealing with these problems, instead of going on a trip to Europe."

Mr D. C. Mavhaire (ZANU (PF), Victoria) said he looked forward to the time President Banana would be able to open a Parliament consisting entirely of ZANU (PF) members.

Mr Mavhaire said his first duty was to put the record straight regarding history, and it was disappointing to hear a cleric such as Bishop Muzorewa distorting these facts.

The African National Council was formed in 1971 as an umbrella body. Bishop Muzorewa was invited to join it and was not a founder. It had no meaning once ZANU and ZAPU were functioning in their own right.

POWER

However, the bishop had in the meantime acquired a taste for power.

Mr Mavhaire paid tribute to those who had given their lives in the liberation war, to both the guerillas and to the people.

He said that in the Congo Tshombe, in Iran Bakhtiar and in Zimbabwe Muzorewa had all failed to divert the course of a popular liberation movement.

Bishop Muzorewa interjected that it was he who achieved the principle of one-man-one-vote.

Mr Mavhaire complained that his constituency was gravely underdeveloped and had no primary industry. He urged an intensive programme of industrialisation.

Mr Mavhaire demanded that salaries be increased to a level above the poverty datum line study produced by the University of Zimbabwe in conjunction with the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission.

He said some employers were intransigent on wages in the wish to provoke strikes and damage the national economy. He urged the establishment of workers' committees as a way of bringing the worker into the productive process.

PROFITS

Mr Edward Ndlovu (PF, Mat South) called on the Government to investigate profits made by companies and ensure that those profits benefited the workers as well as management.

The country and Government were facing a national crisis of re-settlement, with 97 to 98 percent of the population destitute and displaced by the war.

He was applauded by Members when he said he did not believe that any government, no matter how rich, could deal with the grave problem.

He suggested that a select Parliamentary committee be formed to initiate programmes and plans for Ministers involved in re-settlement to study.

The committee ought to be made up of ZANU (PF) PF and RF members, he said.

Addressing RF MPs, he added: "Let us not be selfish and say this is an African problem," and pointing at the RF benches, said: "These men are also Africans."

Bishop Given Rough Time

The leader of the UANC, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, made his first speech in the Zimbabwe Parliament yesterday to a barrage of abuse and interjections that at times drowned out his brief address.

Midway through, Wing Commander Rob Gaunt (RF, Highlands) shouted above the remarks from ZANU (PF) members that he was unable to follow the bishop's speech, and told the Speaker, Mr Didymus Mutasa: "We are entitled to hear everything he has to say."

While the leader of the UANC congratulated President Banana and Mr Mugabe for their "tones of reconciliation," he warned of "too much emotion" endangering the new country's independence.

Among the remarks aimed at the Bishop while he spoke were: "How many children did you kill?... Who is the bigger murderer, you or Amin?... Chimoio!... You've got blood on your hands... We don't need you, bloody bishop... Shut up... Rubbish... Nonsense" and continued hoots of laughter.

Mr Mutasa affirmed Wing Commander Gaunt's plea, and told Members to "make less interjections."

The first interjection came when the Bishop said that unless Members followed the Prime Minister's plea for reconciliation people in Zimbabwe would find themselves in the same situation as had occurred in Angola--a civil war.

There was a roar of both laughter and anger when he said: "Most members of the House were once colleagues and were once under my leadership. It is

quite possible that in future all these people can come back again under the UANC."

He said murder, abduction, harrassment and retaliation were rife.

"Until we have achieved a situation where people can go to bed and expect to get up the next morning.. rather than be carried away to some places, we can soon find that we will be in the Uganda of Amin."

He accused ZANU (PF) of doing these things, and promised to hand in a document giving details of the incidents perpetrated against people not members of ZANU (PF).

Referring to earlier allusions to the UANC being involved in preparation for a coup, the Bishop said he was "very sorry" to have been mentioned in this regard.

The Bishop also criticized the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation which, he said, had become an organ for "a political party."

He denied allegations that the UANC had been motivating people to strike, and said the reason for the recent wave of industrial unrest was the workers "asking for what they believe is theirs"--better pay and conditions.

The Bishop also asked why so many "children" were still being kept in assembly points and suggested the money--about $1.3 million a day--that was spent on the war, be used for their rehabilitation, as well as on bringing to reality the governing party's promise of free education and health services.

Debate on New Bill Postponed

THE House of Assembly next week will begin debating the Local Government Laws Amendment Bill which aims to incorporate local government areas into local authorities in urban and rural council areas.

The Bill is also intended to pave the way for the extension of the rural council system of local government to tribal trust lands and purchase areas. It will scrap the term "African council" and replace it with "district council".

The Minister of Local Government and Housing, Dr Eddison Zvobgo, read the Bill a second time in the House yesterday, but further debate was postponed after a motion by Mr John Landau (RF, Avondale) asking for time for members to study its provisions.

The Minister referred to an "important provision" removing from the Urban Councils and Rural Councils Acts the requirement of a referendum before former African townships can be incorporated into municipal, town and rural council areas.

The overall intention of the Bill is to streamline the local government system by removing separate arrangements for largely white and former black areas.

Dr Zvobgo said he had also accepted a proposal from local authorities that different levels of rating be established for commercial, industrial and residential areas; a system long overdue here and widely practised in other parts of the world.

The Bill also proposed to allow joint action between committees and boards of different councils. This co-operation had been in use before, but was abolished by a previous amendment, a step which he described as "retrograde".

Dedication to God Urged

CHRISTIAN and Jew are to combine in Parliament to appeal to the Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, to introduce a dedication to God in the Constitution that the country received from last year's Lancaster House talks.

Mr Denis Walker (RF, Bulawayo North), a devout Christian, is to introduce a private motion in the House today urging the Government to amend the Constitution by adding the words: "The peoples of Zimbabwe humbly acclaim the supremacy and omnipotence of Almighty God and acknowledge the ultimate direction by Him of the affairs of men."

Seconding the motion is the only Jewish member of the Assembly, Mr John Landau, who is Rhodesian Front Chief Whip.

There was merriment in the House when Mr Mugabe became the latest offender against the parliamentary rule never to walk between a Member addressing the House and the Speaker's Chair.

When Mr Mugabe accidentally strode between Mr Freddie Shava (SANU (PF), Manicaland) and the Speaker, he smiled sheepishly at the jocular protests from the Rhodesian Front benches which set the whole House laughing.

Excusing Mr Mugabe's parliamentary solecism Mr Rowan Cronje (RF, Central) interjected: "Some comrades are more equal than others."

The Senate: Call for Total Removal of Sales Tax

THE increases in the betting tax would not bear harshly on the betting public and would considerably increase Government revenue, said the Minister of Finance, Senator Enos Nkala, when moving the second reading of the Finance Bill.

Other provisions of the Bill included a reduction in sales tax and its abolition in respect of a number of basic foodstuffs. Increases in income tax to compensate were also envisaged.

Senator Jack Mussett approved of the changes but asked the Minister what the rate of increase would be on taxable income. If income tax were pushed too high it could hold back industrial development and the poor would still suffer in the long run, he said.

Senator Joseph Culverwell fully supported the measures affecting the sales tax and betting taxes, which were in accordance with socialist outlook. He believed that gambling was not in the best interests of the people.

Senator Mark Partridge said it was wrong to decide the rate of surcharge on income before the basic rate was known. He asked the Minister to declare the tax rate as soon as possible to help the taxpayer.

He did not object to betting because he had seen the pleasure it gave to people. Surely there was enough misery in the world without trying to prevent people from enjoying themselves, he said. In this country black gamblers were in the majority and they would suffer most from the increased tax.

The sales tax proposals were warmly supported by Senator Chief Musikavanhu and Senator N. M. Chivende, both of whom urged the total abolition of tax on all foodstuffs instead of only on a selected few.

Senator Agrippa Makunde told the Senate that he was well aware of betting and gambling as he had worked at the Victoria Falls Casino for two years. The casino was a house built for gaming and betting "and is a house built for stealing from the people", he said.

"Gambling brings hardship, hunger and hooliganism which is not required," he added.

Senator George Hartley criticised a suggestion by Senator Culverwell calling for a further "redoubling" on betting tax, saying that such a move would not affect just people that gambled.

The Senator said there were highly specialised breeders of bloodstock and this was also an industry which gave employment to a lot of people "particularly Africans".

Senator Mrs Sunny Takawira said she did not believe that gaming was liked by many people and said people should ensure that their activities did not lead them astray.

Mr Nkala assured the House he did not intend to increase income tax above the current level while pointing out that taxation in other countries, such as Britain, was higher.

The Minister said he realised that taxation should be retained at a level where it did not discourage investment.

"We are a young country and we need investment. We need to encourage initiative both by individuals and companies to absorb the levels of unemployment."

There was, however, no intention to reduce the 10 percent sales tax levy.

He said he was seeking other ways of raising revenue and those who called for the total removal of sales tax should take into account the fact that the Exchequer needed money for reconstruction "for rebuilding schools, hospitals and for rejuvenating the economy as a whole".

The Minister said that if he were to abolish sales tax entirely it would cost the country $165 million, which it could not afford. If income tax were increased to compensate, investment would be discouraged.

Senator Paul Savage said he came from Gwanda and had been in the mining industry for the past 40 years.

Mining, he said, was known as the "silent service", but it had gained enormous profit for the country. The system of exclusive prospecting licences had resulted in great expansion, and he hoped the Government would continue it.

Senator Savage spoke in defence of the country's wildlife and deplored the culling of the elephant population, especially in the Wankie area.

Payments for Land Outlined

THE price paid for land the Government was buying as part of the resettlement plan would be advertised in the Government Gazette, the Minister of Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development, Mr Sydney Sekeramayi, said yesterday.

The Minister was answering a question posed by Senator Colonel George Hartley which asked the Government to state the price being paid per hectare for farms situated at Soti Source in the Gutu district for a resettlement scheme.

Shortly after the Minister had started quoting the prices for farms the Government had acquired, Colonel Hartley rose to say that it would be unnecessary for the Minister to detail the prices in the Senate if these were to be published. The Minister sat down.

Senator Chief Rekayi Tangwena rose unexpectedly and questioned Government's practice of buying the farms.

"Since when do you buy a country? You take it," he exclaimed.

Minister Sekeramayi had told the Senate that the Government had a table stating the prices paid in the Gutu area and he stressed that the purchase had been made on the basis of willing seller and a negotiated price.

He said the valuation of the land was made by professionals and took into account such factors as soil conditions and improvements. It would thus be misleading, he added, to state an average price per hectare being paid for land the Government was buying.

The Minister quoted prices that ranged from $24.71 a hectare in the case of one farm to $19.77 a hectare; $20.18 a hectare and $18.61 a hectare in other cases.

CSO: 4420

SWIFT TRANSPORTATION WORKERS STAGE STRIKE

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 28 May 80 p 7

[Text] About 800 employees of Swift Transport Services went on strike in Salisbury yesterday, demanding the dismissal of a senior European official of the company.

The company has temporarily suspended its services.

The management said it could not agree to the demand and gave the workers until 4 p.m. to return to work, otherwise "those not returning would be regarded as having terminated their services with the company."

A statement said: "At about 4 p.m. all workers left the premises. As a result there were no incoming or outgoing services to or from Salisbury yesterday evening.

"Services have been temporarily suspended."

A spokesman for the Transport and General Workers' Union, Mr Albert Mugabe, said later that 1,300 workers were on strike at the Swift depot.

"We are accusing the manager of the company of refusing to negotiate with the trade union on a labor problem, which has resulted in the entire labor force going on strike," he said.

Mr Mugabe said he would meet the workers this morning to see if they could resolve the deadlock with the management.

Our Bulawayo correspondent reports that the total labor force of Bentwood Cabinets (Pvt.) Ltd--380 employees--are on strike for higher pay.

'Not Enough'

Mr Sidney Beech, a director of the company, said the employees went on strike on Monday morning and continued to stay away yesterday.

"They have just been awarded a 10 percent pay rise by the Industrial Board for the furniture industry. But they say that is not enough. They want a 40 percent increase."

An industrial relations officer from the Ministry of Labor and Social Services, Mr Peter Cowan, had talked to them and urged them to return to work and negotiate terms, but they have refused, Mr Beech said.

"They have all gone home."

Our Midlands Representative reports that the industrial unrest has escalated in Que Que with Union Carbide's Rhomet workforce and that of Lancashire Steel, who went out on Friday and Saturday, being joined yesterday by almost the entire workforces of Sable Chemicals, Stewart and Lloyds, Haggie Rand and Que Que Municipality.

Police estimated there were 2,500 men on strike here yesterday.

The municipal strikers yesterday prompted the Town Clerk, Mr Tony Hudson, to issue an appeal to ratepayers to burn their own rubbish.

The beerhalls remained closed.

"Basically they want higher wages and conditions of service to be looked at."

A spokesman for Sable Chemical Industries, which has its factory 20km from town, confirmed that 400 African employees went on strike yesterday morning--all but about 12 of the total labor force.

CSO: 4420

POSSIBILITY OF SOLAR ENERGY CONTRIBUTION DISCUSSED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 28 May 80 p 3

[Text]

ZIMBABWE was at the beginning of an era of major mining and industrial expansion, the Deputy Minister of Mines and Energy Resources, Mr Joel Ntuta, said in Bulawayo yesterday.

He told a Solar Energy Society of Zimbabwe seminar that the country's electricity generating capacity could well be strained.

"It is possible that solar energy could make a meaningful contribution to our energy, for heating water is scarcely economic in many parts of the country."

It would be wise to prepare for its use by continuing to study developments in the solar energy field, he said.

Machine designs must be improved and manufacturing methods streamlined. At the same time, people would have to be educated to accept solar energy.

The responsibility for energy resources, which had been vested in his Ministry, would become increasingly important in the years ahead.

"Our national objective must be to become self-sufficient in energy requirements, and I feel sure that solar energy will have a significant role to play in achieving it," said Mr Ntuta.

Delegates at the seminar were told by Mr Johann Basson of the South African National Building Institute that with the planned economic development and urbanisation, and an increase in standards which the population would demand, Zimbabwe's electric generating capacity would become inadequate.

He said: "To create that extra capacity you will need a lot of money. If this is not available, solar energy can be used to decrease the rate at which the demands for electricity increases.

"Although solar heaters have high initial costs and sometimes maintenance costs, they can pay for themselves in 10 years."

He said this figure was based on Zimbabwe's existing electricity tariff, but if electricity charges were to increase, the heaters could be said to have paid for themselves a few years earlier.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

T-SHIRT BAN REVOKED--The Government has revoked a ban on the wearing of party political T-shirts introduced two years ago at the height of the war, under the emergency powers. A notice in the latest Government Gazette repeals the prohibition on wearing any party political apparel made in 1978. The ban applied to all political parties. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 28 May 80 p 7]

ACCOR AGENDA--State participation in the private sector, currency allocations and fuel costs are some of the issues to be tackled at the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Zimbabwe congress at Victoria Falls, which opens today. The Minister of Commerce and Industry, Mr David Smith, will officially open the three-day conference which has the theme "Challenge of the Eighties." But the most immediate problems will be tackled at the open business session tomorrow where members can comment on, or question officials about, the association's activities and Government policy. The symposium will include papers by the Secretary for Transport and Power, Mr Peter Lamport-Stokes, Professor Gordon Chavunduka, speaking on social services in the country; and Dr T. R. Muzondo, who will discuss growth, redistribution and employment. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 28 May 80 p 3]

BANKS' REACTION TO PLEA--Most commercial banks yesterday declined to comment on a call by Finance Minister Senator Enos Nkala for them to be locally incorporated. Spokesmen for the major international banks--Standard, Barclays and Grindlays--all said they had no comment to make on Mr Nkala's call. But a spokesman for Rhobank said that his bank was not affected by the Minister's appeal as 38 percent of its shares were owned by the public. "We are also locally incorporated," he added. Mr Nkala said in an interview last week that banks must be locally incorporated so that indigenous Zimbabweans could have a stake in them. He said, however, that this was an appeal and not a threat or a form of nationalization. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 28 May 80 p 2]

BULAWAYO COUNCIL--There was no racial approach to the decision by the Minister of Local Government and Housing that Bulawayo's new city council--to be elected in October--shall have 23 seats, the Town Clerk, Mr Ian Edmeades, said yesterday. The guideline used by the Minister was the ration of

potential voters in the two areas: a potential 50,000 in the present municipal areas; and a potential 85,000 in the areas about to be incorporated, Mr Edmeades said. "There was no reference by the Minister to black seats or white seats," he said. "In fact, everyone with the basic qualifications to stand as a city councillor will be entitled to contest the elections in October, and to stand for whichever ward they chose, regardless of where they live." There is nothing to stop residents of the present local government areas (the townships) standing as candidates for any ward in the present municipal areas provided they have the required qualifications, he said. "We do not require a candidate to live in the ward where he wishes to stand. There is absolutely no racial connotation about this coming election." Mr Edmeades was answering criticism by Mr Sam Nkomo, chairman of the Mpopoma Leaseholders' Association, that the structure of the new council was divided on lines of white and black councillors. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 28 May 80 p 2]

UN AID AGREEMENT--An agreement between the United Nations Development Programme and the Government of Zimbabwe was signed yesterday, spelling out the rules under which the UNDP will undertake development. The agreement was signed by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Simon Mzenda and the UNDP assistant administrator, Mr Michael Doo Kingue. A U.N. spokesman said the agreement outlined basic requisites, such as all aid and development projects being initiated at the request of the Zimbabwe Government. It also provided for close consultation with the Government in the implementation of programmes. He added that for the first time in such a standard agreement, a "team leader" from the UNDP had been designated to coordinate the activities of the various agencies in the U.N. system. It is understood that the man tipped to fill the position is an economist, Professor H.M.A. Onitire, who is at Ibadan University, Nigeria. Sources said it was believed the Zimbabwe Government had asked the U.N. to temporarily waive certain costs involved in U.N. activities in the host country. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 28 May 80 p 1]

CAP BRANCH SOUGHT--The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Simon Mzenda, is to ask Parliament to form a Zimbabwe branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. Mr Mzenda gave notice at the start of business that he would introduce a motion about the formation of the branch in the Lower House tomorrow. After UDI in 1965 the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association severed all ties with the Rhodesian Parliament and a Rhodesian Parliamentary Association was formed. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 28 May 80 p 4]

CSO: 4420

END

SELECTIVE LIST OF JPRS SERIAL REPORTS

NEAR EAST AND AFRICA SERIAL REPORTS

NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

WORLDWIDE SERIAL REPORTS

WORLDWIDE REPORT: Environmental Quality
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Epidemiology
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Law of the Sea
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Nuclear Development and Proliferation
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Telecommunications Policy, Research and Development

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